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*We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.*

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Friday morning Mukden was occupied by the Japanese. The news that the great battle, which began round Mukden ten days ago, had turned conclusively in favour of the Japanese, reached London on Wednesday. But though we know that the Japanese have gained a victory, as they gained a victory at Liao-yang, it is still to be decided if those confident reports, almost exactly repeated from the time of Liao-yang, of “the hurdles closed round the Russian sheep” are truer now than then. The battle began with a succession of attacks by the central and east central armies under Kuroki and Nodzu against the Russian centre and left wing. From the conflicting accounts of attacks and counter-attacks in this part of the field it became apparent later that the immediate object was to hold the Russian army and attract reinforcements, while General Oku on the left wing and along the Hun Ho was preparing a rapid and weighty flank movement. Up till Wednesday we had heard from the Russian side only accounts of successful resistance at isolated points, and the fuller Japanese messages were all marked by allusions to the “obstinacy” of the Russian defence.

Proof of a general Japanese success had been accumulating and General Kuropatkin acknowledged that retreat all along the line began on Tuesday last. General Kuroki, in front of him, becoming aware of the withdrawal of troops, took the important position at Machutan; and the forces on his right wing, of which we have received very little information, were able to roll up the Russian left and advance towards the north-east of Mukden, though still at some distance from the city. But the crisis was on the west. General Oku, as Kuropatkin's as well as Oyama's messages of Thursday imply, had completely outflanked the Russian right army, had made his way in force to within a few miles of the west of Mukden, and the latest telegrams describe fighting on the north, where the railway and telegraphs were temporarily cut. If he really establishes himself to the north and the

Eastern army can continue its advance, the narrowest neck will be left for Kuropatkin to continue his withdrawal to Tieling. But we are yet without proof that the intercepting troops of Japanese are in nearly sufficient force to stop 250,000 men or that counter-attacks may not be successful.

The secret which has not escaped is the whereabouts of a large army recently formed under the generalship of Kawamura. Nothing could better illustrate the deficiency of our information than the two conflicting convictions among military authorities. Some assert that he is on the extreme east and perhaps advancing towards Vladivostok; others that it is his force which is supporting Nogi and Oku in the great flank movement 120 miles to the north-west. The losses on the two sides are estimated at 100,000, but no one can know even approximately. A striking example of the tactics of the Japanese is given in the news that they captured one position by a sham retreat on a Russian position as if driven back by hostile forces, really their own supports. The Russians, tricked into taking them for their own men, did not discover the mistake till they were within charging distance.

The somewhat grandiloquent wording of the Tsar's proclamation, appearing unexpectedly and apart from the accompaniment of the rescript, which followed some hours later, produced a misleading impression on the public mind. A comparison of the two is suggestive. The manifesto, on a closer examination, appears to be the voice of the Tsar appealing to the nation to rally round the throne and to protect it from the wiles of anarchists, who think that “by severing the natural connexion with the past they will destroy the existing order of the State and set up in its place a new administration on a foundation not suitable to our Fatherland”. The rescript, on the other hand, addressed to the Minister of the Interior, is an answer to the passive petitioners for reform, who have been loyally standing aside during the prolonged crisis awaiting the Tsar's decision regarding their remonstrances. It begins with a message to the nobility, the zemstvo assemblies, commercial associations, and peasant communities. No mention, it should be observed, is made of the artisan class. It further directs the Minister “to convene the worthiest men possessing the confidence of the people, and elected by them, to participate in the elaboration and consideration of legislative measures”.

Those who were gloating over the prospect of a second strike revolt in S. Petersburg on the anniversary of the self-emancipation have been disappointed. Saturday and Sunday passed off quietly. The strikers, it is evident, have lost an opportunity of enlisting the services of the Government in negotiating on their behalf with their employers. At the same time the revolutionary socialists have once more been defeated. The workmen, foolishly persuaded by these political agitators, assumed a hostile attitude, declining to send delegates except on arrogant and impossible conditions. They thus naturally destroyed the object and aim of the Labour Commission proposed by the authorities for the discussion of the workmen's real grievances.

The strikers have ceased to attack private manufacturers, and have concentrated their efforts on a vain attempt to paralyse the State authorities. Meanwhile the strike funds are becoming exhausted and the strikers' wives and children are on the brink of starvation. The sporadic eruptions of ostensibly oppressed artisans in Poland, Moscow and other parts of the country are dying out. The Siberian Railway strike though somewhat serious to the working of the railway is of a purely political character. In Poland the men are actually being locked out by their employers, and in S. Petersburg the same thing is happening in large numbers of steel-yards, mills and factories.

When Prince Ferdinand left Bulgaria it was said that he was taking an opportunity of evading local difficulties. When he reached Berlin for an unusually long visit, the diplomatic objects of his meetings with the Kaiser were discussed at great length. Happily now he has come on to England the press has chiefly been content with his pedigree; and no one has taken much trouble to attribute intention. Perhaps no one is sufficiently interested, though the interest should be great, in the middle Eastern problem. Prince Ferdinand, forgetting that little matter of precedence which has kept him out of England since the Jubilee, has made his journey in pursuit rather of personal prestige than of any specific political purpose. He has not the inherited authority of other rulers; and is clever enough to know that "hobnobbing with Louis Napoleon" is no waste of time. What was unsaid or what might have been said between him and the Kaiser and the King will be quite as useful as what he agreed upon with Count Bülow and Lord Lansdowne.

The San Domingo treaty is providing as good a test of the American Constitution as did the Cuban Reciprocity Treaty. President Roosevelt made the treaty because San Domingo was in a bad way, and it was well that the United States should at once take responsibility for its debts and organise its Customs. The Senate is amending clause after clause with dilatory thoroughness, in order to assert its dignity; as, in the case of Cuba, it asserted monopolist interests. A question of real constitutional importance will be brought to the front when the remains of the treaty come back to the President. What will he do? He has at any rate postponed his holiday in order to face the position. The treaty is likely to be established as a test case; and by way of a preliminary settlement the Committee on Foreign Relations is to conduct an inquiry into the circumstances in order to clear up the constitutional relations of President and Senate.

The fact that the Government majority on Lord Selborne's appointment was only 58 was due to the absence of several Irish Unionists in Ireland. Had those gentlemen been in London, the figure would certainly have passed 60, for never was opposition more factious and ridiculous. Even Mr. Swift McNeill, who roared like a lion in the afternoon, cooed like a dove at the evening sitting. In truth there is nothing to say against Lord Selborne's appointment, and the speeches from the Opposition benches were a compound of insincere cant and an indecent desire to beat the Government with any stick that came to hand. Fulsome praise of Lord Selborne was mixed with a perfectly hypocritical protest against his being a party politician. It is true, of course, that ordinary colonial governorships are filled by members of the colonial service; and in former days the

Governorship of the Cape Colony and the High Commissionership of South Africa, held by the same man, were reserved as the final reward of the Hercules Robinsons and the Hely Hutchinsons. But as we pointed out in our leading article last week, the High Commissioner of South Africa is no longer an ordinary colonial governor.

The Governor-General of India and the Governor-General of Canada have, with one or two exceptions like Lord Lawrence and Lord Lorne, always been political appointments, for the simple reason that the best men available are nearly always statesmen belonging to one party or the other. Since Sir Alfred Milner was sent out to South Africa, events have lifted the post of High Commissioner to the viceregal level. And what a hubbub there would have been if the Government had taken a permanent official from Whitehall, or moved on, say, the Governor of Mauritius to take Lord Milner's place! The first people to complain would have been our South African colonists: and really if they are pleased with the appointment—as to which there is no doubt—what business is it of Mr. Swift McNeill and Mr. Buxton? Mr. Buxton was particularly foolish in patronising this contemptible exhibition of party spite, as he may soon be Colonial Secretary himself.

By the way, Mr. Chamberlain's "mot" about open minds being empty was not very happy, and is indeed but a variant of the older saying that the mind is evenly balanced when there is nothing in either scale. Like so many epigrams, these sayings are the condensation of sciolism. They are profoundly untrue, because all really first-rate men have open minds, witness Halifax (the Trimmer), Bolingbroke, the second Pitt, Disraeli, Gladstone, and Mr. Balfour. But the mercenary bias in most first-rate men forces them to choose a side. Where the mercenary bias is weak, as in Halifax, the late Lord Derby, Lord Goschen, and Mr. Balfour, you get indecision, or aloofness, which is a very different thing from emptiness.

The appointment of Lord Cawdor to succeed Lord Selborne is an excellent one from every point of view. Lord Cawdor is a genial man of the world and a trained man of business. He sat in the House of Commons for many years as Lord Emlyn, and he unsuccessfully contested a Manchester division in 1892. He has proved a most energetic and successful chairman of the Great Western Railway, and the faculty of dealing with a mass of complicated details will stand him in good stead at the Admiralty. Both as a whip in the House of Commons and in the board-room at Paddington Lord Cawdor has shown that he can handle men as well as facts and figures; while to the House of Lords he has made himself acceptable as a humorous and fluent speaker. During the Disestablishment agitation in Wales ten or twelve years ago Lord Emlyn was about the gayest and most effective platform speaker on the Conservative side, neat and ready in retort, and displaying a kind of businesslike eloquence.

The MacDonnell incident has had the sequel generally predicted for it. Mr. Wyndham has resigned and Mr. Balfour has accepted his resignation. Thus, to no purpose and without any necessity, one of the best debaters is lost to the Government, and one of the most cultivated minds to the counsels of a Cabinet already much in need of strengthening. A more gratuitous self-sacrifice has seldom been made. Mr. Wyndham might have pursued his Irish policy undeterred by threats of Nationalist or Ulsterman if he had only been content with the thousand objects within his reach and not hankered after the one forbidden thing. At any rate, if he did not want it, he was looking at it too earnestly. As it is, his policy is set back, and his own career, we hope not wrecked, but certainly gravely compromised. Undoubtedly he was right to resign, but the occasion of his resignation need never have arisen.

Lord Dudley, and possibly Sir Antony MacDonnell, may be expected to follow him. And how will Mr. Balfour fill up the vacant offices? May be the Viceroyalty will not be filled. In choosing an Irish Secre-



tary Mr. Balfour has to choose a policy as well as a man. Will he give himself away to Ulster clamour, or will he persist in the right policy of conciliation, taking care to ensure for the future against wild excursions into forbidden countries? Mr. Gerald Balfour was never seriously accused of Home Rule leanings, yet his policy was eminently constructive and conciliatory. It was a great mistake to move him to the Board of Trade. Whoever it may be, we trust he will be independent equally of Nationalist and Ulster influence.

Mr. Churchill's fiscal motion was much more ingeniously drawn than Mr. Asquith's dissolution amendment. It was adapted to suit every sort of free trader, and, so far as its terms went, even not to repel fiscal Balfourians. But of course it failed, for everyone knew that its one and only object was to place the Government in a minority. The previous question was quite the right answer to such a motion. The Government had a majority of 42; quite enough for working purposes. It is evident that the Ministry need not fear the fiscal question in this Parliament. It is not that will turn them out, if anything does. Mr. Churchill spoke well, with most unwonted restraint. But the feature of the debate was Mr. Chamberlain's brilliant quotation from Cobden. "Colonies, Army, Navy, and Church are, with the Corn-laws, merely accessories of our aristocratic connexion, and John Bull has his work cut out for him for the next fifty years to purge his house of these impurities". The Church as an "impurity" may be commended to Lord Hugh Cecil in his Cobdenite mood.

The Free Fooders seem to have been in some doubt as to what course to take on the division. At any rate they took no common action. Would it have been otherwise had Mr. Balfour's letter to Mr. Hayes Fisher been read to the Free Food Committee? In any case it is to the credit of the Free Fooders that they decided—if only by a majority of one—that a letter marked "confidential" should not be read to the committee. It is not to Sir Michael Hicks Beach's credit that he should have been one of the minority who desired it to be read, though confidential. The Free-Trade Unionists, though they count amongst them some very brilliant men, can hardly be regarded as a group any more. By secessions to the Liberals and returns to the Ministerial fold the group has well nigh melted away.

There seems to be a conspiracy in the press to take Mr. Leslie Wanklyn seriously. His challenges, his correspondence, even his opinions are solemnly recorded. And now we have a fearsome story of conspiracy and treason; a sort of gunpowder plot of Mr. Churchill's to blow up the Government and make himself Prime Minister, with Lord Hugh Cecil as something very big indeed beneath him. No doubt Mr. Churchill would be highly gratified at such a dénouement, but he would hardly tell the secret to Mr. Wanklyn. Still he has furiously denied the story, calling Mr. Wanklyn in effect a liar; and Lord Hugh has cut in with another denial. What a sensation all this would make in France; and what clash of arms for sequel. In the meantime, what post did Mr. Churchill offer Mr. Wanklyn in his Ministry?

Mr. Balfour admirably "squashed" Mr. Lewis, of the Flint boroughs, when he pressed on the Prime Minister the terrible case of His Majesty's three hundred millions of Indian subjects, in being allowed but one debate in the House per year. What a parlous condition to be in to be discussed in the House but once a year. Somehow India goes on all the same, and is better governed than any other part of the empire. In nothing does the House show so much good sense as in its determination, by consent of both sides, not to make questions of high Indian policy matter of party debate.

Lord Rosebery at the City Liberal Club on Thursday indulged in a rhetorical device singularly unsubtle for so astute a mind. It is very easy to set yourself up as a dummy voter and then ask yourself which side you would vote for if an election came round. The audience will not be greatly impressed by the dummy Lord

Rosebery saying he would vote Liberal. It was more characteristic of Lord Rosebery that he should tie his tongue on the Anglo-French agreement because he finds himself in a minority on that matter. What courage! However, as Lord Rosebery is not likely to be in the next Liberal Ministry at all, it may not matter very much whether he has courage or not. On Foreign Affairs, at any rate, Lord Rosebery ought to be illuminating. This is the light he threw on British foreign policy. "It is dictated by broad considerations which compel any Minister who holds the office of Secretary for Foreign Affairs and compels any Government . . . to be animated by considerations by which they must be animated."

In Monday's debate on the Naval Estimates the one genuine complaint made against Mr. Pretyman's explanation of what they meant was its deficiency of detail. But one trembles to think what would have happened if Mr. Pretyman had indulged in the technicalities which Mr. Haldane sighed for. Everyone who attempted detailed criticism collapsed, but otherwise, if nothing was said to prove the presence of naval experts in the House, the principal speakers at any rate spoke sensibly and without bias. The reduction of the vote from £36,889,000 to £33,389,000 was of course pleasing to the professional economists, and Mr. Haldane claimed that an efficient navy was in Cobden's opinion a necessary adjunct of free trade. Then why did he call it an "impurity" to be purged away? Mr. Pretyman was more precise than the Estimates only on the question of submarines, which especially appeal to him. It is interesting history that the Government had already made arrangements for an effective submarine when the experiments with the Holland boat set every critic talking of naval revolution.

In the debate on the Supplementary Army Estimates on Wednesday Mr. John Burns and Mr. Arnold-Forster were at issue on a point of English history. Mr. Burns considers that England was never so great as during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries when she had few colonies, but men of strong character, "transcendental intellect", &c. We wonder whether he was quite clear as to when the fifteenth century was. Roughly one associates it with the Wars of the Roses, Joan of Arc, Henry V., Henry VI., Beaufort, Gloucester. Perhaps Mr. Burns had none of these in his mind—he was thinking of Cade—but it is more likely that he meant the sixteenth century when in the fervour of oratory he said fifteenth. He had better leave history alone when Mr. Arnold-Forster is listening—for the latter has not only written a primer but knows it by heart.

The Director of Recruiting's report, with its naïve admissions and fallacious comparisons, is a curious document. As a comparison with the existing state of affairs, we are only given the figures for 1900 onwards. But the conditions during the war were altogether abnormal; and those from 1898 at least should have been given. The present take of recruits seems satisfactory enough. But the point is, shall we get an adequate reserve; it is now nearly 76,000—about the normal strength existing before the war. But the war proved that it should have been larger; and in existing circumstances it must inevitably decline, as the period of service has been lengthened. For it is quite certain that the two periods of service cannot run concurrently. Mr. Arnold-Forster nearly a year ago favoured us with much adverse criticism of his predecessor's three years' system, which he said had broken down. But this report admits that "it is difficult to form a correct opinion as to the result", because the new scale of pay &c., has not yet been long enough in vogue—a pertinent comment on his accuracy.

Perhaps the most lamentable feature of the report is the statement as to the civil employment of discharged soldiers. Private employers of labour are urged to employ soldiers. But how can we expect them to exert themselves in this matter, when Government departments set such a very bad example? During the past year, throughout the whole of the Government offices, excluding the War Office, only nine posts were given to discharged soldiers! We can only

describe this as shameful and unpatriotic to the last degree. A large number of rejections on medical grounds—most frequently defective teeth—have taken place, a fad which the doctors just now seem to be running to death. It is only recently that this matter has received attention; and all our most celebrated campaigns have been fought by men to whose teeth no consideration whatever was given.

The Trade Returns for the month, which, at any rate, show an exceptional face value, may or may not imply a general return of trade prosperity. It is difficult, for example, to extract from the figures the essential fact whether the increased amount means a real increase or mainly higher prices. But the narrower question is plain enough that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, instead of having to face a deficit, is likely to have a surplus to play with. The probability is worth the notice of the knowing prophets who at one time confidently anticipated an early dissolution on the ground that the Government dared not face another budget.

Four bishoprics have been filled up this week: Dr. Talbot goes to Southwark, Dr. Gibson to Gloucester, Dr. Harmer to Rochester, and the Rev. T. P. Hughes, Vicar of Llantrisant, to Llandaff. It has been understood for a long time that Dr. Talbot would take Southwark on its separation from the diocese of Rochester. It is thoroughly in harmony with his untiring industry and devotion to duty that Dr. Talbot should elect to take charge of South London, one of the most difficult, and in some ways one of the most depressing, areas for Church work in the whole country. In spite of Mr. Masterman's "From the Abyss" very few on this side of the Thames realise what a wilderness of blocks and mean streets and shoddy suburbs lies to the south. The social problem of South London is hardly less in magnitude or inconsistency than the wants of the East End. It is well indeed that in its new start as an independent diocese South London will have so distinguished and so devoted a bishop. Dr. Gibson's appointment to Gloucester follows the well-established tradition that a vicar of Leeds is a bishop in the making.

The Irish Literary Society, mostly composed of people to whom Erse is Greek, will appreciate the difficulty of the Irish members in justifying the national language. For some months the Postmaster-General has been pestered with complaints concerning letters "duly addressed in the Irish characters", which have been delayed in transmission. The implication is that the poor disciple of Erse suffers under the infliction of an ignorant Saxon at the post office. The accumulated complaints were brought to a head this week over the case of a particular letter. Lord Stanley was challenged to an explanation. He confessed, to the growing delight among Nationalists at the success of the "draw", that the local postmaster was not up to examination standard in Erse; the base invader could not even understand without a dictionary the address of a letter naturally written in the language of the country. But, added Lord Stanley, it appears on inquiry that the sender of the letter had been unable to write the characters correctly. Happily the Irish conspirators were not so set on their scheme as to lose the fun of their native defeat.

After a debate of some unconscious humour the County Council, who are a little shy on matters of taste, has preferred names to numbers. The first steamboat is to be called the Charles Lamb; who, as cockney, is perhaps the least mortal name that could be selected. The next ship is to be the Besant, and it is a long drop from the cockney essayist to the cockney historian. The range of the discussion was well illustrated by the alternative suggestion, which can have been due to no other suggestion than alliteration, of Bayard! But if the Council wish to educate Londoners in the knowledge of their town and city, why not take the names of some of those old and delightful map-makers to whom we most owe a knowledge of old London. Milton, whose best years were spent in "The Garden House", Aldersgate, has a claim.

#### THE SPRING CAMPAIGN.

THE mighty struggles of this week have set an end to the speculations of mystified newspaper readers. At last we see the designs long matured unfolding themselves before us, at last the curtain has been raised and we see the actors once more in movement. Why when the fall of Port Arthur gave Oyama a numerical superiority did he seem reluctant to use his strength? Why did minor successes and indecisive victories still cheat the public of the sensational catastrophe for which the posters of the press provoke their appetites? The answer is to be found in the climatic and topographical conditions under which the present war is waged. Neither roads nor railways can be constructed nor can man live in the open when the thermometer is below zero. Where such channels of supply do not exist they must be made, for they are as necessary to military energy as are the veins and arteries that carry life and energy to the brain of an athlete. True it is that Napoleon won Austerlitz in December, and that the Le Mans campaign was conducted over ice and snow. But Manchuria is not France intersected with communications and studded with sheltering villages, while even Austria a hundred years ago was a garden compared with the lonely stretches and rugged boulders of the hill country of Manchuria. Winter laid its compelling hand on the warriors in the East. They lay facing one another frost-bound and numbed, and were forced by the biting cold to burrow into the ground and dig as inexorably as by the bullet. In the twentieth century we have revived for us the practice of the earlier days. Cæsar sought his winter quarters, so did Frederick and Marlborough and Eugene. The forced quiescence formed a feature of all wars until the growth of populations and commercial developments produced roads and sources of supply to take the place of the carefully provided magazines the lack of cultivation formerly necessitated. Great strongholds and long lines of earthworks marked the fronts of opposing forces in the days of Queen Anne. They again are characteristic of war in these days of science, who with all her endowments can fight against nature as little as against fate.

For the moment we may dismiss the question of sea supremacy in the Far East. Should the Russian squadrons concentrate and hazard a great fleet action, it would be rash to discount the result too lightly. Meanwhile they have not drawn together, huge difficulties connected with coal supply will confront them when they do, and it will be time enough to try to gauge chances when determined resolve carries them on to meet Togo's fleet. But the strategic situation and the factors in the campaign on land have been full of interest and suggestion. From the basin of the Hun Ho on the west to the mountain of the Taling on the east the Russian forces stretched out their strength. What precise number of men Kuropatkin disposes of is not, without official information, to be set down with accuracy, but it probably does not number more than 250,000 effectives when the garrisons and troops on the lines of communication have been deducted. We are told that in a month or two perhaps this force might be more than doubled. The supply capacity of a single line of rail must remain the decisive factor in any calculation. Germany with all the railway lines of Eastern France at her command did not succeed in keeping more than 500,000 men in that country during the war of 1870, and we know what apprehensions were felt as to the results any interference with her lines of supply would bring about. Can Russia under present conditions hope to do better with but one single line? We doubt it, and can certainly not concede more than the possibility of her equalling the German feat, and shall be much surprised if she do not lamentably fall short of it. The armies of Japan at present are grouped into three main sections. One holds the Russian right in the neighbourhood of the road from Mukden to Liao-yang. On the right of this wing of the Japanese forces their centre is reported to be moving from Pent-si-hu northwards, and it is this force which has recently captured two passes which open the way to the march. The point it aims at is thirty miles to the east of Mukden, and thence a road is again available which leads to Tieling fairly in the



Russian rear. The left wing of the Japanese gained a victory the other day at Tsing-ho-cheng, and it was in connexion with the movement of this column that by far the greatest interest was aroused. For it gave us an indication of what the Japanese plan of campaign was likely to be. Up to recently both armies stood astride of their communications. Both gripped one another by the chest, to neither did an opening to strike a blow in a vital spot present itself. Frontal attacks are sometimes a necessity. Against a savage a heavy blow straight from the shoulder is still perhaps the most decisive. For a savage will stand to meet it, and his feeble armament will not ward it off. He has no communications, his necessities are carried with him. The spear or sword in his hand needs no replenishment. But civilised armies have to guard a long trail congested with supplies behind them. Their formidable weapons can deny, or at least retard, an advance sent straight at the front. A crowning victory can only be secured by a stroke aimed at the vital and most vulnerable portions of their organism, which is behind them. The world has speculated for months as to which flank the attack from the south would select for its onslaught. An advance between the railway from Liao-yang to Mukden and the Chinese frontier would deny freedom of manœuvre to any general who respected the sanctity of neutral territory. Therefore to attack the Russian right by a wide turning movement was not a feasible operation, although the level country on the river's bank may have offered a field which lent itself to the enterprise. So the wiseacres laid it down. The Belgian frontier in 1870 formed the reef on which the third Napoleon's fortunes were finally wrecked. The lessons of Sedan were invoked to warn the Japanese away. On their eastern flank it is true that difficult country, broken, mountainous, and easy to defend was a deterrent. But no narrow confines here hampered their initiative, no diplomatic considerations need stay their stride. Accordingly it was by a great turning movement across the head waters of the Taitse-Ho that we were told to expect them to operate, and indications could be recognised that it was here that the fortunes of the next campaign would be decided. Therefore expectations at the opening of the week all pointed to the decisive blow being struck from the east, and Kuroki was the hero of the hour.

But the morning papers of Tuesday disclosed the Japanese plan. Then Nogi's shells were reported falling on the Imperial tombs a few miles directly west of Mukden. An extension northwards of this great turning movement was reported next. Clearly it was from the west that after all the great effort was to be made. Oku on Nogi's right rear formed the connexion with Nodzu, who assailed the Russian centre about Lamatun. Further westwards Kuroki was struggling for Wangfuling, while some thirty miles away to the east, Kawamura was advancing towards Shang-chia-Ho. Even the best maps baffle one, but in general the situation was this. The Russians were being enveloped by a mighty concentric attack stretching from a few miles west of Mukden, through Lamatun, on the road to Mukden from Liao-yang to Shing king on the east. On Wednesday night Reuter told us that Mukden was being heavily bombarded. Rumour had it that Nogi and Kuroki had joined hands, and that a colossal Russian disaster was in sight. Rumour has proved once more a lying jade. Distances are so vast, the retaining power of firearms so tremendous, that no sudden inspirations will bring swift and ruinous defeat. The methodical procedure of siege warfare will in future mark the course of war; ground will be gained by the prosaic efforts of the spade, or the gradual and insidious advance of skirmishers. Numbers only can annihilate, and numbers can only be thrown rapidly on decisive points in close formation, and over comparatively short distances. The only chance of success the Russians had—the real danger to the Japanese—was a counter-attack in strength adequate to pierce the enormously extended line. Rossbach, Austerlitz, Salamanca illustrate the counterstroke as applied by three great masters of war. But to bend the bow of Ulysses demands heroic proportions, and it may be that Kuropatkin was not equal to the great occasion; at any rate Thursday's news showed us no indica-

tion of any action on his part which could produce decisive results. A general Russian retirement had been ordered, it was stated, on the night of the 7th, Kaulbars was to cover Mukden against attacks coming from the west, and play the part of flank-guard to the main body. Since no great counter-stroke was to be attempted an immediate retirement could alone promise safety to Kuropatkin. Victory is out of the question, whether a rout can be avoided depends on the vigour and strength which the two enveloping attacks of the Japanese display. If the error which distinguished the Japanese strategy of Liao-yang be repeated, and at least one flank attack be not given such weight as will carry all before it, the Russians may retire, weakened and deprived of stores it may be, but still intact as an army. Kuropatkin had waited so long on the Shah-Ho that the chance of a really annihilating victory was given to Oyama. But though Mukden was taken yesterday afternoon, the Japanese had not cut the railway in any force, and they had no trophies in the shape of guns. Is this undoubted success going to be a defeat or a débâcle, a Liao-yang or a Sedan? That is the question of the moment. In other words, Have the Japanese such numerical superiority as the task they have set themselves demands? If they have, then Kuropatkin is doomed to irretrievable disaster, but as yet we cannot speak with more certainty than to repeat that on sea or land in Manchuria or in France only numbers can annihilate, and that genius is needed to get full value out of numbers.

#### THE MORAL OF THE FISCAL DEBATE.

HEARERS or readers of the debate on Mr Churchill's anti-preference resolution must have been painfully conscious how greatly embarrassed are the supporters of the preference policy by the temporising attitude which the Government has been forced by circumstances to assume. Mr. Churchill lays down the proposition that preferential duties would be a source of weakness and not of strength to the empire. Yet, though Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain and their followers are in fact prepared to dispute his proposition at every point, there must be an apparent evasion of the issue. Why? The explanation is to be found, a long way back, in the relations of Mr. Balfour and the Duke of Devonshire. Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain have always been in agreement on the wisdom of seeking for a closer union with the colonies on the basis of commercial union, the difference between them being that Mr. Balfour thinks a preference including taxation of food at present impossible. Both are equally untouched by the invidious epithet of protective attached by Mr. Churchill to the taxation of food products, as they have both declared that they are not contemplating protection. Mr. Balfour declares he is not a protectionist, and Mr. Chamberlain does the same with equal emphasis. But Mr. Balfour, supposing that the country was not prepared to accept the new policy, sought in the support of the Duke of Devonshire a compensation for Mr. Chamberlain's withdrawal from the Government. He made his speech at Sheffield in the belief that he was laying down a course of action which would be approved by the Duke only to find immediately afterwards that the compromise had failed. Mr. Balfour adhered to his plan of campaign though he had lost the forces on which he had counted. He was driven to a set of temporising expedients which deprived him of the moral advantages possessed by Mr. Chamberlain, whose appeal to the country could be made without finesse. He had the appearance of indecision upon a subject which he would not allow to be brought to a test either in Parliament or the constituencies. Though he may have been at one with Mr. Chamberlain the preferential policy derived no advantage from this fact, which should have enabled them, under different political conditions, to present a clear programme to the country with all their united strength. It is apparent enough that the preferential policy has never yet had its fair chance and once more the disadvantages of the position have been brought into relief by the debate on Mr. Churchill's resolution.

In pursuance of the plan laid down by Mr. Balfour an attempt to raise the preferential policy had to be met by resorting to the formula that it is not a matter for the present Parliament to consider. Hence the previous question and Mr. Balfour's appeals for support on the ground that a vote for the Government implied an opinion neither in favour of nor against the new colonial policy.

This is simply handicapping any policy on its merits. Unfortunately, too, Mr. Balfour's determination not to commit the Government on the clear issue of preference, and his intention of putting the matter merely as a proposal to call a Colonial Conference, only lands us in a new phase of the old ambiguities. The electorate can understand and give a decision on a clear issue. They know what the free traders mean, they know what Mr. Chamberlain means, but they can only be bewildered by the proposal that they shall not decide for or against a preferential tariff but for a conference which shall discuss it at large. There are innumerable difficulties connected with the constitution of a conference before the electorate has decided to adopt or reject a policy of preference. The proper function of such a conference is executive, to discuss and settle ways and means of carrying out a definite policy decided by the constituents who send the delegates. In the absence of such a decision, on what principle are these delegates to be chosen? When the constituents have expressed no views, are the delegates to be selected because they are supporters of preference or against it? If the Government won the next election, we may assume that the delegates chosen would be in favour of the principle of preference; but what authority would such *ex parte* representatives have for their decision? A Conference so called would neither be a guide to the real opinions of the empire nor, as there had been no expression of opinion by the people, would it have power to settle anything. So that the whole matter would still remain in the melting-pot until the much-deferred vote of the electorate had at last been taken. If the constituencies are to be won, it can only be by presenting them with the simple issue, do you or do you not, for the sake of the empire, want the institution of imperial preference? Shift it back by introducing all the uncertainties and confusions attaching to the calling of a conference, and only so many more opportunities are presented to the Opposition for obscuring the issue and bewildering the electors. If it is said that it is good tactics to avoid committing the Conservative party to a policy which the next elections will prove not to have the assent of the country, we must say that there is a good deal of truth in Mr. Asquith's taunt, as to the voting on the previous question, that it is sufficient committal to the opinion, if not to the policy, of preference by the Conservative party. That is the real fact, and it is better to go to the country on this than on any finessing which attempts to conceal it. It is the question on which the fortunes of the two parties turn, and with it are also bound up other objects of policy which Mr. Balfour has at heart. Defeat on the preference policy means failure to attain these objects; and the best way to win on the preference issue is to present it clearly to the electors.

In considering the chances of success of a preference policy its advocates may be sure that they are in the strongest of positions because the country is looking for the creation of an imperial system and the Opposition are utterly uncreative. Their main strength lies in the contention about the effects of taxation of food and the restrictions on the sources of supply. That is a contention which is not to be underrated and every allowance must be made for the argument of their importance. But even on this point the supporters of the preference policy are able to show that the restrictions are not so serious as the free traders profess; that they are only temporary. The basis of the policy is the extension of the imperial food resources. The political exigencies that have separated Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain do not prevent them from uniting in declaring that such taxation of food as is implied in the preferential scheme would not be protection—that is would not be limitation of food supplies but would have as one of its ends the increase of these supplies. But the full force of the argument

will not be grasped by the country so long as the preference policy is held back, as if the arguments of its opponents on this head were granted. When we come to the real issue the essential point that can be laid before the electors is that if we are to have a beginning towards the union of the detached fragments of the empire, the preference policy alone offers any prospect of its realisation. The creation of a unity of commercial interests is the first step towards a political union. With duties levied here in favour of the colonies, with preferential duties in the colonies in favour of British products there must arise a general feeling of more close and solid interests between various parts of the empire than exist between them and outside nations. In no other way that has been proposed, from the birth of the Imperial Federation League onwards, can it be said that even the very first step has been possible. There is no other method, for example, which does not stumble at the initial difficulty of taxation without representation; and that must happen with any of the more grandiose schemes which propose a full-grown constitution at the beginning. But the merit of the preference policy is that it founds itself on a sentiment of mutual interests which will afterwards extend to a wider range. It will lead to a perception of the absurdity of an empire which presents such anomalies as an army and navy supported and controlled by only one portion of the whole, in which there is no common system for defence and offence, or in which the citizens of one portion of its territories are not free to settle and reside in another portion. The adoption of the preference policy would lead the way to the growth of such a perception. May not an appeal be reasonably made to all who are conscious of the utter negation of empire in our present system, whatever their domestic politics may be, to recognise that no other plan that has been put forward furnishes so substantial a start in the desired direction as this?

#### THE NAVAL PROGRAMME.

THE hundred years are almost complete since Nelson's famous signal first flew at the mast-head of the "Victory". Is it altogether an accident that the transition period from old to new should have come to an end with 1904? In the year which commemorates the crowning mercy of Trafalgar the Board of Admiralty have been able to announce that a new and definite stage has been reached in the evolution of the modern steam navy; yet Mr. Pretyman made no allusion to the date when introducing the explanatory statement for 1905-6, and the House seemed to have forgotten it, for Mr. Haldane was the only one of his party who appeared to have caught the spirit of the flagship's signal. An Opposition member, Mr. Macrae, moved an amendment for the purpose of obtaining an expression of regret that the Government had not taken steps to negotiate with foreign Powers for a reduction of naval armaments, and started off by observing that he did not understand whether 160 ships were to be discarded altogether or whether 84 were to go to the scrap-heap in addition—a fairly clear proof that he does not read his Navy List. A member for Plymouth showed some indignation at workmen in the dockyards being expected to behave as if they were members of a disciplined force; surely he must have been ignorant of the conditions prevailing in the French yards at the present time from want of discipline. Enough has been said to illustrate the character of the discussion. Both in the House and through the country the reduction of 3½ millions has raised a chorus of satisfaction on all sides, but after all it is only the logical sequence of a reform which the service has been advocating for many years: "only numbers can annihilate" is not an absolute truth and the Board of Admiralty has at last had the courage to spend no more money on tinkering up tin-kettles which might prove very serviceable if a time should come to pit tin-kettle against tin-pot. The true reason for congratulation is not so much that the estimates show a reduction as that the fleet has gained in mobility by the removal of the creaks, and all hands can now see what they have to do in war-time. But this decrease of 3½ millions must



not be read to, literally: figures are tricky things to handle; the sum voted for new construction in the current year was £11,654,176, and of this sum £1,000,000 was taken to complete the purchase of the "Triumph" and "Swiftsure". A battleship at the present rate of building requires thirty to thirty-six months for completion, therefore the sum total of £1,875,000 which these two ships cost should be divided by three and spread out over the years 1902, 1903, and 1904, when it will be seen that the share of the price which ought to have been borne by 1904 is no more than £625,000, and the £625,000 can in no case be deemed money laid out on the commencement of new ships. Notwithstanding this the "Times" takes the whole of the £1,000,000 charged last year on account of the Chilean warships, adds it to the £642,000 allocated to the commencement of new ships, and compares the total thus arrived at with the £1,260,000 to be devoted to the laying down of new ships in the coming year! "War is a business of positions, of positions occupied by fleets", and building programmes are only satisfactory when the requirements of those fleets are provided for. Now two battleships of the "Nelson" class were to be begun last autumn, but though we are now told that the contracts have been given out, the ships were evidently not laid down at the time promised last year. Parliament was asked to approve of the laying down of these two battleships in place of the three originally proposed, and to consent to their being begun in the autumn instead of in April, the reason given being that the purchase of the "Swiftsure" and "Triumph" had somewhat upset calculations. There may be some explanation forthcoming to account for the delay in beginning them, but unless the period of completion be "materially shortened" they will not be ready for the pennant at the date originally contemplated. This has to be taken into account when considering whether the single battleship provided for in the 1905 programme is to be looked upon as sufficient guarantee that a margin of safety can be reckoned on in the future. Besides the one battleship the statement mentions four armoured cruisers and eighteen destroyers of sorts as about to be begun during the financial year 1905-6. There is some ambiguity in this; the Board decided to postpone the fourth armoured cruiser and some of the destroyers of the 1904-5 programme, and therefore a discount must be made when estimating the value of the list of new ships to be laid down in the coming year. If we take the two years 1904-5 and 1905-6 together there is room to doubt whether the future outlook is altogether reassuring. Perhaps the Board feels bound to wait for the report of the Special Committee on designs before launching out upon a more ambitious building programme. It is satisfactory to know that this committee is already at work.

We are glad to see there is no intention to begin building any more Scouts at present, for those under construction are certain to disappoint their supporters. They are fancy ships and will be unable to compete with a true thirty-knot destroyer in smooth water, or run away from a ship of the Drake class in rough weather. As their armament consists of nothing heavier than 12-pounders they will have to fight a flotilla of destroyers on even terms; better thirty knots and no guns than a smooth-water speed of twenty-five knots and a collection of 12-pounders. No small ship has yet been built that can steam fast enough in rough water, and we much doubt whether the special type of ocean-going destroyer referred to in the statement will fulfil expectations and justify laying out of money upon it. The money would be better spent in building 30-knot destroyers, which are really wanted. It is waste of time, labour and money to attempt to make torpedo craft comfortable, but there is no reason why a 30-knot destroyer should not combine strength with speed, although that speed can never be more than a smooth-water one. As for torpedo-boats, Nos. 3 to 78 inclusive ought to be put on the scrap-heap, together with the worst of the 27-knot destroyers. Those who have been accustomed to reckon fighting strength by counting heads are certain to question the wisdom of

removing so-called still serviceable ships from the list of efficient, but it is far better to spend every penny in keeping the fighting machine ready to strike quickly and strike hard than to fritter away money over a lot of ships which, hastily commissioned and liable to break down, no Admiral could depend upon. Apart from the improvement in wireless telegraphy, which has made it possible to cut down the number of vessels that might otherwise be required for the transmission of intelligence, the retention of ships of comparatively small fighting value is prohibited by the congestion in the home ports which their presence would cause. The new system of organisation and distribution could never have been put in practice without a resolute weeding out of obsolescent craft. Even if berthing accommodation could be found for the best of them, retention would have meant increased expenditure on naval works, more hands in the dockyards and an enormous establishment of personnel which could never have got any training afloat; without it no man can become either seaman, gunner, torpedo-man, stoker or marine. Taken as a whole the statement is clear and business-like and shows that the Board of Admiralty is determined to get value for its money, but we sincerely hope that Mr. Pretyman does not really consider it a good thing to "short circuit" business or he will soon bring it to a standstill. A desire to express himself in nautical terms led him to pay the First Sea-Lord a very doubtful compliment.

#### BULGARIA AND THE BALKANS.

IT is now eighteen years since Prince Ferdinand assumed the government of Bulgaria in response to the unanimous vote of the National Assembly. In spite of difficulties and complications attending the office the choice has proved a sound one, not only for the Principality itself, but for the Balkans generally. For two years prior to this event Bulgaria had been fighting for existence. Owing to her annexation of Roumelia, she found herself in violent antagonism to Russia, who encouraged the Sultan to adopt a menacing attitude towards the Principality. For other, though equally hostile reasons, Austria, on the plea that the Bulgarian "coup" had destroyed the balance of power in the Balkans, induced King Milan of Serbia to resent the annexation by force of arms. Owing to English representations at the Porte the Sultan remained inactive, but the advice of the Vienna Cabinet was acted upon and the two armies met at Slivnitza, with the result that the Bulgarians ultimately secured their position. Prince Ferdinand did not come on the scene until 18 August 1887, when he was elected unanimously to take the place of Prince Alexander who had abdicated. The Prince was for conciliating Russia, but Stamboloff opposed any concession in that direction and thereby probably secured Bulgarian independence. But after Stamboloff's assassination, a crime as to which there have been many sinister and possibly shrewd guesses, in 1895 Prince Ferdinand made his peace with Russia and was recognised by all the Great Powers as Prince of Bulgaria.

Since then the Principality has enjoyed a political calm, which has only been ruffled by the annual disturbances in Macedonia. But despite the numerous concessions made to Russia, the old spirit of Bulgarian independence is as much alive now as it was in the days of Stamboloff. That the position has been a difficult one, no one will deny, and as a successful manipulator of political forces, the Prince deserves the fullest credit. Nervous of disposition, fearing always for his life, torn by conflicting interests and forced to consider the often extravagant desires of an aspiring people waking to national consciousness, he has proved his political sagacity in still holding the reins of government. That he has checked the aggrandising ambitions of his people is still more to his credit, for Turkey, Greece, and until recent years, Serbia, have all given cause for annoyance. But still the deluge has been circumvented, the Sobrange has learnt to bow to the inevitable, and the rôle of peace inculcated by Prince Ferdinand is doing more to further the dreams of a "Greater Bulgaria" than a score of successful campaigns. Thus Bulgarian influence is surely though

imperceptibly spreading throughout the Balkans. Her propaganda, though at present supported by fewer adherents than the Greek, is fast outstripping all Hellenic efforts in Macedonia, so that in the course of a few years it is not improbable that the language, schools, and churches of the Principality will monopolise the entire peninsula to the extinction of all others.

It is impossible to account for this extraordinary progressive influence unless the Bulgarian character is thoroughly understood. Frugal, industrious, and little inclined to conversation, they are easily led when once their interests are aroused. As farmers and peasants they are admirable; as soldiers they have no equal amongst the Balkan Slavs, and although at present their civilisation is of a somewhat low order, they have given signs of the most astonishing progress. The explanation of the advanced position they hold in the Balkans may be put down almost entirely to racial superiority. So far inferior are the peoples of the other Balkan States that their ultimate absorption, given time, into the Principality would seem to be a foregone conclusion. This conviction amongst Bulgarian politicians accounts in a large measure for the passive attitude latterly assumed, even when the watchful interest of Russia is diverted towards the Far East. That so opportune a moment for action should be neglected is to be accounted for in two ways: first by the conviction that time is the best champion of Bulgarian aspirations, and secondly by the grave doubts whether the Powers would sanction any further increase of territory at the expense of the Turkish Empire.

Thus Bulgaria is content to possess her soul in patience: her cause is a growing one, and unless the unforeseen happens, that is to say unless the Sultan or other of her neighbours becomes aggressive, she is confident that the day will eventually be won by the sheer force of her national character. How long Russia and Austria will allow this policy of peaceful absorption to continue undisturbed is doubtful. From England's point of view, it is to be hoped that the present lines of Bulgarian policy will be indefinitely continued, for it offers probably the best solution of the Macedonian problem. The danger is that one or other of the jealously interested Powers may, in order to counteract Bulgarian advancement, precipitate a quarrel for the sake of the spoil. Such a policy is unlikely to be initiated by Austria in her present state of internal disquietude; Serbia, Greece and Roumania may be equally discounted for different reasons; as to Turkey the very fact that the Mohammedans are a decreasing asset removes not only one of the most serious causes of Balkan friction, but is one hindrance the less to a consummation of the Bulgarian dream. Lord Lansdowne will probably be able to convince Prince Ferdinand that so long as Bulgaria is content to pursue her ends by peaceful and legitimate means, England may be relied upon for support; he will make it clearly understood that, even with a mandate from the Powers, we are unable to force the acceptance of any reforms; and Prince Ferdinand will doubtless be enjoined to do his utmost to discourage, and if needs be prevent by force, the passage of armed bands in Macedonia.

#### THE GREEK VICTORY—AND AFTER.

THE "rout of the Philistines" proclaimed, after two days' engagement, on Saturday night, excited and delighted undergraduate Cambridge as much as the voting on degrees for women. Everyone knew that Greek would win, even before the crowd of masters began to appear from all parts and all professions; but the majority is bigger than even "bets on the course" made it, and altogether overwhelms early expectations. Both Oxford and Cambridge have now asserted with unmistakable emphasis their conviction of the value of pass Greek; and the verdict must stand for many years. The question has been threshed out with a deliberate thoroughness that exceeds by much the argument spent on nine out of ten measures which become the law of the land. The discussion has been attended with a degree and extent of interest, more than rare in affairs of education. All the arguments have been used and, what is more, read; and after it all the

belief in Greek stands. Nor has the question been much vexed by partisan feeling. We know men of science who, missing Greek, desire its benefit and classical Fellows who, past masters in Greek themselves, have contempt for the small Latin and less Greek of the passman. Every variety of profession and opinion was represented. Mr. Balfour, never good at detail, made himself conspicuous by handing his placet to the wrong official. If many clergymen came to assert the value of the Greek Testament, they were accompanied by a surprising number of business-men from London. It is important that undergraduate opinion, as proved in college and university debates, as well as in the wounding of a policeman and the *feud-jolie* on Parker's Piece, is on the side of the angels. Undergraduates at any rate have no axe to grind and are nearer than others to the pains and penalties of preparation for contemptible examinations in Greek grammar and syntax. It is claimed by the abolitionists that resident opinion was about equally divided. The estimate, from their point of view, is sanguine; but it is nothing to the point one way or another. These things are not decided by resident opinion, happily. Even if we make the ample concession that residence in an academic circle is conducive to breadth of view, it would be outrageous to give a body of men, revolving in the little eddies of University cliques, exclusive power to decide vital questions. If ever resident dons get the supremacy which is sometimes claimed for them, they will do as much damage to the government of the Universities as would a House of Commons to the country if it lost the correction of appeal to the country.

The result at Oxford and Cambridge may be a double blessing to him that gives and him that takes pass papers in Greek. The fact is settled. Euripides is not to follow poor Euclid into banishment; and now the victory is won, it is possible, as it was before strategically unwise, to inquire into the condition of the winning cause. Every winner of a famous victory has to answer the awkward Southey question, "And what good came of it at last?" Glad as we are at the decision we still believe that Greek may do more harm than good to the passman and the typical schoolboy, if it is taught in as wrong-headed a way as it is oftenest taught. A comparison of the two schools will reveal the *πρωτον ψευδος*. Cambridge scholars have founded a claim of superiority over Oxford scholarship on the precision and thoroughness of their philological and grammatical knowledge. The discussions over Jowett's "Plato" gave innumerable illustrations of this distinction; and to some extent the claim is made good. For a man who intends to do special work in classical learning it is difficult to over-estimate the value of philology and the logical side of grammar: the grammarian who "settled Hoti's business" was among the heroes. But training in these branches of language is a prolonged propædæutic and as often as not even the great scholar makes this branch the end and aim of his scholarship. He cannot see the language for the accents.

If the Cambridge principle is necessary to the perfect scholar it is also dangerous even for him; and when we come to the man who is made to learn Greek only because it is a fine language and of great educative value everything is lost by drilling him at length in teasing distinctions of form and derivative niceties; and even the Jowett method becomes too narrow and special. In itself half the work spent on instruction to schoolboys in Greek is rather a useless burdening of the memory than a mental training; and the iterated exercise over the same ground is as poor a substitute for a nimble wit as the tortured *chassé* of a caged beast before the cage bars. The pupil gets no nearer to culture or good taste. If, as we hold, some insight into classical literature is necessary for an appreciation of humane letters it follows that Greek must be taught in another way than it is. There is only one way if it is to be of any value to the unprofessional public. It must be taken by pupil and teacher as a department of literature. The object should be to teach boys how to read Greek authors, and the only way to learn to read is to read. As a rule the time spent on grammar and composition is out of all pro-



portion to the time spent on translation, and one has known schoolmasters of some fame who have been content to spend a term on half a dozen chapters of Thucydides. What fine scorn some of the best scholars have expressed for the schoolmasters' knowledge. Peacock who, whatever his failings and absurd devotion to Nonnus, read Greek authors of all sorts because he liked them is never tired of satirising the grammarian. De Quincey, who had a gift for conversing in dead languages, is even more contemptuous, and it is told of one of the greatest scholars among our headmasters, a man who always taught from the bare text, that he refused in the final schools to pay attention to a single grammatical question. The success of Mr. Walker's scholars at Manchester and at S. Paul's has been due largely to the fresh, extensive, and as it were everyday acquaintance that followed from his method of reading Herodotus, Xenophon and the easier writers without preparation as if they were English books. Oxford may be less grammatical than Cambridge but it is not enough realised even at Oxford how great is the importance of liberating instruction in Greek from the specialist fallacy that prevails. The area is too wide, and it may be the soil too shallow, to make intensive cultivation a valuable method. As Keats felt, the value and delight of the classics only come to him who has "many goodly states and kingdoms seen". Even an indifferent scholar may be taken with pleasure through Herodotus and Lucian, who is grossly neglected, and some of the dramatists; and at the end though a preparatory schoolboy will triumphantly upset him in the genitive of *ἥρωας*, he will have breathed the pure serene of the wider expanse with an enjoyment that the schoolboy's schoolmaster has made impossible for himself and his pupil. We hope as the Chorus put it, so loudly cheered at Oxford last week, that as a result of this long dispute between the *Δίκαιος Λόγος* who upheld the old education and the *Ἀδύος* who desires revolution, instruction in Greek through the schools will *ἄρ' ἂν ὑμεῖς ἐξαμάσσητ' ἐπὶ τὸ βέλτιον τρέπειν*. It is a pity that the many Cambridge dons, who surrendered their intention of seeing the "Clouds" at Oxford before the superior duty of voting for Greek at Cambridge, lost this chance of noticing the utter appropriateness of Aristophanes' satire to the present question.

#### THE CITY.

THE reduction of the Bank rate to 2½ per cent. came rather in the nature of a surprise to the market as it was not regarded likely by competent judges that any change would be effected until the close of the financial year. There is a considerable amount of gold due to arrive from abroad and with the completion of collections on account of revenue for the current fiscal year the Bank is likely easily to retain control of the market; the present reduction is, in all probability, merely a prelude to a further lowering of the rate during April; the market quotation for money has not been materially affected by the change as there is a good demand in connexion with new Stock Exchange issues. The alteration of rate has come at a moment when there is some falling off apparent in the buying of the finer securities, but although there is a check in the investment market the inquiries from insurance companies and similar financial institutions point to a bona-fide demand and we have no reason to alter the opinion we have hitherto expressed that the continuance of cheap money will effect a material appreciation throughout the list of first-class securities.

The main factor influencing the quotation for home and foreign Government securities during the past week has been the hope that the battle now proceeding in Manchuria may prove decisive and so hasten the conclusion of peace: if there is no overwhelming advantage to the Japanese our own opinion is that in so far as the markets are concerned in those securities most sensitive to the progress of the war there will be a set-back, as both armies will require a period for recuperation after their great effort. But apart from the pressure which may come from a defeat of the

Russian arms in the field, there is unmistakable evidence that she is weakening in her financial resources. The withdrawal of her gold from the Paris market—virtually without notice—amounting to £4,000,000 is significant, and we do not believe that the overtures for a further loan which were broken off or suspended a few weeks ago are likely to be resumed by the French financiers. The French banker cannot continue to withstand the pressure of the small investor to sell his Russian bonds, and although it is ridiculous to suppose that Russia cannot continue to borrow money, the borrowing must soon be upon such onerous terms that the rentier will refuse to hold longer the securities which yield relatively so little and for which he paid so much. On the other hand, we should look for a very considerable rise in Russian securities with the advent of peace, for the question of indemnity could not seriously affect the situation, whilst the enormous sums hitherto spent in the Far East would be deflected to Western Russia in one form or another. The financial world which appears to have every essential necessary for general activity is for the moment partially paralysed by the uncertainty as to the war and the City thinks that the power of international finance will be used to promote an early peace: should this unlikely result be accomplished we believe that the entire international markets would experience a period of great activity.

It has become so usual of late to allude almost weekly to an issue by Messrs. Speyer Brothers that it is quite in the natural order of things to refer to their latest prospectus offering £3,400,000 inscribed 4 per cent. stock of the Rand Water Board for sale at £100 per cent. Of the total amount the sum of £2,200,000 has been applied for and will be allotted in full, so that it only leaves the comparatively small amount of £1,200,000 to be taken by the public, and it is quite safe to assume that the applications will exceed these figures many times over. Indeed the lists will probably be closed before these lines are published, and, although there is already a premium established on the stock, the investment can be safely recommended as the security is undoubted. The rating roll of the Water Board amounts to over £200,000,000, and the ordinance under which the stock is created provides for the total redemption of the loan at par in thirty years. We understand that the Municipality of Johannesburg will also shortly appeal to the public for a further loan of £2,500,000, partly in connexion with the work arising from the installation of a water supply under the above scheme, and also to cover the cost of installation of a satisfactory sewage scheme, together with many other necessary works; the total loan borne by the municipality will then amount to £5,500,000, but it is difficult to convey to those who do not know the town the great area from which revenue is derived—we believe that it is close on eighty square miles reckoning the town itself and the line of reef with smaller townships which contribute.

Another interesting South African issue is that of the South African Breweries Company which offers 500,000 £1 cumulative 5 per cent. preference shares at par. The success which has attended the business of this company is one of the traditions of Natal, in which colony the company had its inception and from which it has gradually extended its sphere of operations until it includes the Cape Colony, the Transvaal, and the Orange River Colony. The balance sheet of the company shows that a steadily increasing profit has been made and the present issue is necessary to consolidate and further extend the company's trade throughout South Africa. An important feature is the fact that the revenue—apart from trade profits—is considerably in excess of the amount necessary to pay the dividend on 1,000,000 preference shares and that no debentures can be created without the consent of at least two-thirds of the holders of preference shares; altogether an excellent investment.

The Home Railway markets have been quiet although the weekly traffics have been satisfactory and the Trade Returns for February have also shown improvement. American Rails have been steady, but the precise effect of the decision as to the Northern Securities case has not been settled to the satisfaction

of Wall Street and the ever-present labour question has been in evidence although the strike here proved abortive. It is difficult to believe that American railroad shares can continue to advance much higher on present quotations, but it is undeniable that the general prosperity of the country is likely to prove in American parlance a "banner year".

The prospectuses of several motor-traction omnibus companies mark the beginning of the disappearance of the horse conveyance from the road, and the names of the directorates warrant the belief that the enterprises will be conducted in a businesslike manner; there is, of course, always the risk of the pioneer in any new undertaking, but the chance of success in motor-traction companies offers, in our opinion, a fair prospect for the employment of capital.

### INSURANCE.

#### PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE.

THE age of a Life office is not an infallible test of merit, although at the same time it is a good indication of financial stability and high standing. At the present time there are only four British Life assurance companies which have been transacting Life business for more than a century; but in 1906 three offices, the London Life, the Provident, and the Rock will keep their centenary. When we consider the enormous advantages which attach to a Life office that has been established for a long time we are almost tempted to wish that the Life Assurance Companies Acts had made it impossible for a new Life assurance company to be started. Especially in recent years new companies, more particularly of the industrial type, have been of such a nature that they could well be spared. Without pretending that so long a period as a century is necessary for the firm establishment of a Life company, it is satisfactory to turn to the records of the old offices and see how well they treat their policy-holders, and how secure their financial position is; as well as to recognise the value of a history in commercial institutions of this kind. There is, rightly, a sense of confidence in an old company which is lacking in regard to offices of recent origin.

We have this feeling of confidence in examining the ninety-ninth report of the Provident Life Office. The amount of new business transacted is larger than in any year since 1887. The premium income shows a small but satisfactory growth and the funds have increased by about £100,000. The payments for commission and expenses absorbed only 14.6 per cent. of the premium income, leaving a margin of 6 per cent. of the premiums to accumulate for bonuses. Although the Provident was established in days when it was not customary to give the policy-holders of a proprietary office any, or much, share of profits, the company at the present time takes for its shareholders an extremely small share of the surplus. The modern tendency in this respect is to give the policy-holders 90 per cent. of the profits, and when a change is made this is the usual arrangement. The Provident, however, gives 97½ per cent. of the surplus to the participating policy-holders, retaining only 2½ per cent. for the proprietors, an arrangement which is particularly liberal for the assured. The funds last year realised interest at the rate of £3 18s. 9d. per cent., showing a margin of 18s. 9d. per cent. per annum of the funds as a contribution to surplus. The Provident, however, has an additional and exceptional source of bonuses, since in accordance with the precautions adopted in early days, when the science of Life assurance was not so far advanced as now, a large amount of the surplus at each valuation is carried forward. The undistributed surplus at the last valuation was £260,000, and compound interest on this amount, accumulated at nearly 4 per cent., will go to increase the bonuses at the next valuation. This additional reserve, a source of both security and of profit, is largely an inheritance from a prosperous past in which new entrants participate.

Of course it might be urged that this sum could have been distributed among shareholders and policy-holders in previous years, and doubtless it could be so distributed now or in the future and still leave the financial

position of the office strong beyond all question. The amount has, however, been accumulated very gradually and it would have been unwise to have parted with the entire surplus in the days before mortality tables were known to be as reliable as they are now. Hence, without injustice to the policy-holders or shareholders of the past a substantial source of profit has accumulated for the benefit of the policy-holders of the present and the future. To the sources of surplus already mentioned must be added an unusually favourable rate of mortality. The number of deaths expected according to the mortality table employed was 347, involving claims of £267,528. The actual deaths were only 268, and the claims £194,428. The postponement of the payment of claims to a later date than was expected and provided for, accompanied in many cases by the receipt of extra premiums, implies an appreciable addition to the surplus available for bonuses.

#### "DEAR YOUNG FRIEND."

IT may interest the fathers and mothers of decent little boys to hear something about what seems to be the latest device for corrupting youth. We have just come across a neatly-bound pamphlet, entitled "Making Money", and illustrated on the cover with two human hands, one clutching a bag of gold, the other lying tenderly on a bank-book. It is issued from the premises of a London company which claims, with unimpeachable justice, to issue more slip-slop stuff than any other house in the trade, not excepting the "Times" advertising staff. Briefly, its object is to enlist a little army of school-boy touts. "Dear Young Friend", writes the Manager, "I want you to read this booklet on 'making money' very carefully. You can make money just as easily as other boys. Far easier than some, as you have ambition behind you and a future in front of you. . . . You have often wished to add to your pocket-money, and now you have the chance. . . . Don't mind if you only make 2s. 6d. a week at first. Keep at it and you will be successful. . . . Let me hear from you to-night, saying you want to start right away".

If the dear young friend accepts the offer, he will be supplied with a package of the firm's publications. He will pay nothing for the first week's supply. "The money you receive from the sale of this will be your capital. It is with this that you make your second week's purchase, and then the profit has commenced"! "It is a fortune-making business if you have any energy at all. There are men in England to-day who have started as you are going to start—simply selling papers in a small way—and to-day they can go to the bank and draw a million pounds, and they have not been working very many years to earn it."

In America, it is explained, one newspaper has got 6,000 boys engaged in pushing it in the country districts. "Now we don't ask you to sell one paper only; we make you an agent for over twenty of the most popular journals in the country, and district agents are supplied with current copies at 9d. per 13 copies, or 1s. 6d. per quire of 26 copies, and we pay carriage on all parcels." By an easy little calculation it is shown that by selling only 98 of Messrs. Harmsworth's publications in the week a boy may realise half a crown on Saturday, and, if he will so far exert himself as to dispose of a trifle of 1,170 copies he may pocket 30 shillings.

We cannot better the language in which the moral qualities of the ideal boy-tout are described. Let him remember that there is no limit to what he may earn if he works hard and has "pleasant manners". But he must not be shy or afraid of hearing himself speak! "The days 'when boys should be seen and not heard' are a thing of the past." He should call at every house and cottage in his neighbourhood, and go to any factory, especially at lunch-time. Here it is suggested that perhaps his brothers or schoolfellows will assist him. We trust they will do nothing of the kind, nor should we censure them with great severity if they gave him a good kicking, and confiscated his capital for the purpose of a school feast, at which he was permitted to assist by looking on.



The latter part of the booklet consists of the biographies of eminent boy-touts. Master Duncan Clarke, we are told, is a Captain of Industry—a little Money King—among his playmates. He had canvassed his district, street by street, with remarkable and gratifying success. Presently, however, he was menaced with what is known to be the curse of commerce—competition. His little friends got excited, and wanted to be taken on as agents! "But Master Duncan had thought this problem all out for himself long before." He wrote a polite letter to the firm requesting control of the whole town—wanted them to refuse all other boys—said he could beat all of them put together, anyway, "and wound up by enclosing a cash deposit to cover several months' supply, just to show he 'meant business'". There could be only one reply to so touching a prayer (accompanied by an esteemed remittance). "We complied with his request to refuse to sell to the other boys." Nice boy, Master Duncan Clarke! We shall watch his future with interest when we know in what district he has acquired his distinguished monopoly. It is strange that an English lad, even so promising as this choice specimen, should have already learned to talk slop American.

Another charming youth is Master William Reardon, who was fired with the desire to win a cash prize offered for the boy who could first sell 350 copies of the firm's publications. His people were going away on a holiday, but business must come before pleasure, unless, as in this case, the two may be combined. He coaxed his fond and admiring father to telegraph for the requisite consignment to be sent to their holiday resort. When it arrived at the post office our bright lad, of course, was there to meet it! No sooner were the bundles delivered than he made a pile of them, where the people were waiting for their letters, mounted it, and addressed the crowd. Before leaving the post office he had sold fifty copies, and "the rest of the day he spent among business men". For this exploit he is affectionately described by the appreciative Manager as the Little Conqueror. "I am eight years old", he wrote, "and never before tried to earn any money, but you can put me down for the first prize whenever you make another prize offer".

One may be excused for referring to the early days of another still more promising lad, as recounted by Henry Fielding. As soon as he was settled at school, Jonathan Wild acquired a dominating position among the other boys and exacted deference from them. Not without cause. "If an orchard was to be robbed Wild was consulted, and though he was himself seldom concerned in the execution of the design, yet he was always concerner of it and treasurer of the booty, some little part of which he would, now and then, with wonderful generosity, bestow on those who took it. He was generally very secret on these occasions, but, if any offered to plunder out of his own head and without acquainting Master Wild, and making a deposit of the booty, he was sure to have an information against him lodged with the schoolmaster, and be severely punished for his pains." The sad end of this lad was attributed by his creator to a too vigorous persistence in the "business methods" with which he had made so auspicious start in life.

We do not like to be rashly optimistic, but there does seem to be some reason for hoping that bottom has at last been touched in advertising, and that there is no lower depth to which touting will descend. Nor can we quite imagine in what respect the publications in whose interest these arts are employed will ever be rendered more popular and worthless than they are at present. It is possible that their compilers are looking forward to the day when the swine and other animals shall have been taught to read and write. The literature is ready for that "new public"—and worthy of it.

#### BEETHOVEN'S PLACE.

LAST week I objected to people writing about music when either they know nothing about it or cannot express what they do know. A slip of the pen the most conscientious and laborious writer may make without fear of eternal damnation; but when one opens half a

dozen books on music—as I did last week—and finds some grotesque error in each, why, then, one becomes a little exasperated. Mr. J. C. Ashton Jonson, for instance, committed no frightful fault when he, through careless expression, contrived to say that piano pedals were invented in 1900; yet, if a writer is so misleading on a small matter, how can he expect us to trust him when the matter is really serious? And Mr. Jonson's slip is by no means the worst I have found. A work like a Dictionary of Music is without value if it is not accurate, and I have found upward of a score of errors already in the second edition of "Grove's", edited by Mr. Maitland. As I have had occasion to say disagreeable things several times about this same Mr. Maitland, to-day, instead of giving my own views, I will quote Mr. Philip Hale, of Boston, U.S.A., as he is reported in the New York "Musical Courier". Mr. Hale is a critic as well known in America as Mr. Chamberlain is in England; he has no prejudices, and his knowledge is perfect; and this is what he has to say:—

"Philip Hale points out some more inaccuracies in the new edition of Grove's. Eugen d'Albert is accused of having written but five operas instead of seven. The dictionary also refers to his 'Kain' as 'not yet performed,' when records show that it was done in Berlin on February 17, 1900. Alboni is alive in Grove's, yet she died in Paris, 1894. Frederick Archer, too, is spoken of as being the city organist in Pittsburg, whereas he departed this world in 1901. Bargiel and Heinrich Ehrlich are two others whom Grove's will not let die, although they are buried and entered in the official dead registers of the city of Berlin. In the Cornelius biography we are told that his 'Cid' had but one performance (Weimar), whereas it has been produced more than once even in New York. E. Fernandez-Arbo is given more space than Charpentier, Chabrier or Duparc, but no reference is made to the violinist's recent short sojourn in Boston as the concert-master of the Symphony Orchestra. Algernon Ashton has as much space as Dubussy, Charpentier has half a column and Dudley Buck over a page. Hurrah for America! Dubussy has half a column and Clara Butt a whole column! 'Rah for handsome contraltos! The essay on Berlioz contains the luminous statement that Berlioz's 'best sustained work is to be found in his vocal compositions'. Forgetful of Bruch's violin concertos, mainly on which his fame will rest, Grove explains that Bruch's 'real field is concert music for orchestra and chorus; he is, above all, a master of melody and of the effective treatment of masses of sound. These two sides of his artistic activity, so to speak, play into each other's hands and have brought him deserved success.'"

Now, another American writer, Mr. Daniel Gregory Mason, has gone to Grove, and also to Parry, for much of his information. He has written a book called "Beethoven and his Forerunners" (Macmillan); Grove is the one author who might have kept him right about Beethoven if not about the Forerunners; yet it is just about Beethoven that he goes wrong. Let us take a striking case: his comment on the theme of the Heroic symphony. "What vigour, what inexhaustible force, what a morning freshness and joy there is in such a theme as that of the 'Eroica' Symphony!" This is very fine; but is Mr. Mason really unaware that this identical theme was used by Mozart in his boyish operette "Bastien and Bastienne"? Yet, apart from this, Mr. Mason has written a book much better than another that I reviewed not so long since.

Beethoven's place in music seems to me by no means so easy to establish as is commonly supposed. I don't know that we need establish such things. Is a rose nobler than a violet, is a tomato better than a beefsteak, is Beethoven better than Bach? The three questions are, if we insist on being strictly reasonable, logical, on precisely the same footing; but mankind and womankind, especially womankind, is never logical. If we could only be logical there would be no Houses of Parliament, no judges or lawyers, no nothing in fact; we would all do the proper thing always and there would not be a single question in dispute (and we must remember that all State machinery was originally intended to settle disputes, only later on the lawyers

applied it to create them). Happily the lawyers cannot create disputes about the relative positions of musicians; we dispute and discuss enough without their kind help. Even Bülow got dragged into a controversy as to who were the three greatest composers, and he promptly hit on his famous three Bs: Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. Many of us thinking ourselves better judges than Bülow, or thinking that perhaps Bülow's judgment was not unprejudiced by certain domestic squabbles, were furiously indignant and wanted to substitute the letter W for one of the Bs. As for Beethoven, it has not been doubted for many years that he stands amongst the very greatest; nor is there the slightest doubt about Bach. Brahms and Wagner will have to wait a long time before they are awarded the first or second or fiftieth prize. But, in the meantime, where do we precisely put Beethoven? I ask the question because Mr. Mason takes him as the crown of music; he will have it that the one divine event to which the whole creation moved for some centuries was Beethoven. He never disparages the earlier masters: rather he glorifies them for the purpose of further glorifying Beethoven.

That Beethoven was a tremendous master goes without saying; but there were kings before Agamemnon. If we are to consider simply who stands nearest to us we must put Wagner in some respects before Beethoven. His "message" is certainly more poignant for this generation if it does not contain so much of the eternally true, if it does not, that is to say, stir the feelings which we have come to think eternal because they are immemorial. But that Beethoven was the first composer to appeal to the permanent feelings of mankind is not at all true. That his appeal was profounder than Bach's or Mozart's I do not believe; and there are other things to be taken into consideration. Mr. Mason makes a great point of Mozart's dual nature: a very ordinary personage with a stupendous musical gift. With this I do not at all agree; but let us accept it for the moment. Where is there a sign of Beethoven's intellect judged by the standard applied to Mozart? In the conduct of his daily life Beethoven was an absolute idiot. Mozart used to cut his fingers instead of the meat on his plate; but he did not have six lodgings at once, he did not forget that he possessed a horse, he did not empty soup on waiters' heads—he did none of the thousand fooleries of which Beethoven was certainly guilty. Beethoven had profound feeling, but as for intellect in the accepted sense of the word I see no sign in his everyday life or in his music. Will anyone venture to say that the scheme of the Choral symphony is intellectual? Who will say that a man has intellect if to do a simple sum in addition he has to put down the figures in ones? All the talk about Beethoven's intellect is nonsense. He had an absurdly simple nature and profited by it by being deeply moved by matters which to a man of intellect would have appeared insignificant. What Emerson said of Carlyle is also true of Beethoven—"There is more character than intellect in every sentence he writes".

For intellect working with marvellous musical aptitude we must go to Handel, Bach and Mozart. For the aptitude and invention without intellect and without great character we must go to Haydn. For sincerity, a deep emotional nature and splendid force of character we must go to Beethoven. Whether he was the first of musicians or not is a matter on which I have little to say: that he was the most intellectual is a statement entirely unsupported by evidence.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.

#### PRINCESS OF THE EMPIRE.

THE churchyard has been cut in two. This piece lies forlorn, derelict, unrelated. The path runs between the railings and the backs of houses. It is a short cut to the railway station. The grass is thick and long, the ancient tombstones with their flaked and stained surfaces droop and tilt in strange attitudes. One stands straight and clear ready to bear, not to seek, the public scrutiny. The letters have been re-cut and seem to fit the lapidary terseness of their state-

ment. "In Memory of, Louise Francis Gabriel, d'Alsace Chimay, Viscountess de Cambis, born Princess of the Empire, died at Richmond, the 27th day of January 1809. Age 72. R. + P."

Born Princess of the Empire! The other monuments inculcate probity or fortitude but this leaves the virtues to the commonalty and proclaims a distinction beyond question or argument. That "born Princess of the Empire" was plainly the fact that had impressed the childish mind and borne the woman company to her last days. Against this imperial state, the Viscountess de Cambis was a domestic matter, part of the common lot. But this affiliation to Rome and Byzantium set her apart, separated her from the nobility that derived from Charles the Great. It did not bring possessions or dignities. It was the shadow of a name, but a name so charged with swelling memories, so loaded with achievements that in its decadence it had a sonorous majesty that made it still the most impressive title in Western Europe. The concision of the mortuary tablet fixes and arrests a peculiar pride. For Princess Louise Francis Gabriel was proud. And that for the moment is all that can be said of her, because before this eloquent stone we face a choice not less vital than that of Hercules, the choice between reality and imagination, between curiosity and construction. Beyond the municipal building, that marks the entrance and records in perishable plaster the civic virtues, there is a library which can tell all about this Princess.

But something forbids—the feeling which animates this inscription. It tells all she wanted to be known. It gives a sense of intimacy. To look her up would be an intrusion, a profanation. How does she make one feel like that and make one shrink from getting her record as if one were searching into the private life of a friend? Have graven words so strong a power? For me at all events they have. My choice is to walk away, not towards the library. Was it because I had chosen the better part that she came with me, travelling, as princesses were used to travel, incognito? Did she mean to let the customary order of my life reveal her to me? It looks now as if she did. Or why having gone to see the Barbizon painters at Kensington should I—who love china ignorantly—sedulously study the tender glow of colour on a dish of porcelain? Plainly on reflection because it represented the birth of the Princess of the Empire. It is all there, the dress, the furniture, the nurse, and the husband. Clearly an event impossible without occult influence. If not why do I pitch upon her period, her locale? There were plenty of other subjects, martial or allegorical, for me, preoccupied with Diaz, to look at. Fanciful is it? The single instance is not valid, a mere coincidence? Very well. What then does it mean that I, refraining from detective search, should find in an odd volume of Walpole my Madame de Cambis? "Has Madame de Cambis sung to you?" he asks the Countess of Ailesbury. So she sang, that is another fact about her. In another page he refers to "Madame de Cambis one of the nuns beautiful as a Madonna". I knew she was beautiful. Now I know the style. A Madonna of the Empire surprises at first. But the Madonna the actual and the ideal are they not Italian, Roman and so most consonant with the Empire?

Observe that there could be no collusion between Walpole and South Kensington, and estimate if you can the value of the cumulative argument. The thing is incontestable. Always the princess is revealing herself to me. She was educated at a distinguished convent, but she has not told me which it was. I am sure—I know—she made a marriage de convenance. I know because when I had other business in hand she made me read a comedy of Marivaux, just to let me see that the Marquise was studied from life. For all her pride she did not disdain the compliment. Is there a picture at Hertford House of ladies visiting a camp? Wherever it is she is there also, as she is at various ages in the pictures of Lancret. I am learning her every day and never will I look her up. People who have authentic information about Louise Francis Gabriel, born Princess of the Empire, are requested to keep it to themselves.

C. G. C.



## "STILL IN THE GROVES OF ACADEME."

LAST week I joined issue with Dr. Merry on a point in Aristophanes. Perhaps, had I not done so, Greek would have triumphed last Saturday at Cambridge even more signally than it did. Some of the dons may have been haunted by a dread of being taught, sooner or later, by the grateful recipients of their tuition. Anyhow, I have received many letters of which the general drift is that I have been foolhardy in attempting to refute so sound and rightly eminent a scholar as Dr. Merry. "You wrote in haste", says one of my correspondents, "and will now repent at leisure". It happens to be true, in a sense, that I wrote in haste. Had there been more time at my disposal I should have argued longer. But penitent—that I am not. I never should have dared tackle Dr. Merry had I not been sure that I was on the safe side of the argument. And it is with perfect confidence and composure that I now proceed to put my case more fully.

At this point the majority of readers will have skipped to the next article. And, indeed, it does seem rather absurd that a grown man, in the foremost ranks of time, should bother his head over a tiny point in the interpretation of a thing written in the fourth century before Christ. Are there no large and vital issues in the modern world around me? Have I no sense of proportion? I have. But I try not to give way to it. There is nothing more dangerous than a sense of proportion. Not even the large and vital issues of his day seem important to a man whose sense of proportion is uncontrolled. Besides, few men are by Fate appointed to a contact with these issues. Most men are by Fate confined to contact with small side-issues. But it is necessary that the niggling labours of the world, not less than the world's great labours, be done well and faithfully. To be a commentator on the text of a work written in a dead language is one of the niggling labours. It seems extraordinary to me that any man can devote, as many a man does enthusiastically devote, all his days to such a labour as this. Still, it is well that the labour should be performed. I honour its performers. And I myself am willing to take a turn at it, by the way, in passing. To do so, indeed, is a welcome change in my ordinary avocation—an avocation hardly less niggling than that of a textual commentator. . . . Down, sense of proportion, down! I never will desert the modern drama. But even the most faithful attendant craves a holiday, now and then. To-day is one of my holidays. And, if I bore you on it, be comforted by the thoroughness of my own enjoyment. The holiday mood is always . . . but you begin to suspect me of temporising. Brandishing a copy of "The Clouds", I hasten to the grapple.

At the end of his dialogue with the Unjust Argument, the Just Argument exclaims "I am conquered. Take my cloak (*δέξασθαι μου θοιμάριον*); I desert to your side". Says Dr. Merry "The *Δίκαιος Λόγος* is fairly beaten. The theatre is all on the side of *Αδίκος*. There is nothing left to do, but to toss his cloak to the audience, and spring down as if to join them, and run off at a side door". I contend that it is to Socrates and his disciples, not to the audience, that the Just Argument addresses his speech. Before giving evidence for my own theory, I will give evidence against Dr. Merry's.

"The Clouds" is a play with a purpose. Aristophanes hated Socrates, and hated all that Socrates represented to him. He wanted to make the Athenians share his own contempt and disgust. The first version of "The Clouds" had missed fire. In the second version Aristophanes was at great pains to catch the sympathy of the audience—to put them in a mood receptive of his ideas. Even had he not wished to convert the audience for conscientious reasons, he would have wished to convert them for reasons of vanity; for it must have been obvious to him that they would not award him the first prize unless they were in agreement with the substance of his satire. His address to the audience through the mouth of the Chorus is a piece of very delicate diplomacy. The gist of it is "You are so clever, I am sure you will like this comedy, which is

really the cleverest I have written". Is it likely that, later in the play, he would have said to them (in so many words) through the mouth of the Just Argument "You are so purblind that you cannot distinguish between truth and falsehood"? To admit that he had not converted the audience would have been to admit that he had no chance of the first prize—that his satire had again missed fire. Aristophanes was not likely to drag in any such admission. Aristophanes, believe me, was no fool.

One of my correspondents told me that in Dr. Merry's text "a very gross epithet" is omitted, and that this gross epithet "is evidently addressed to the spectators". So I looked up the complete text as edited by Mr. Blaydes; and there the gross epithet was—*βροῦμενοι*. But, since Aristophanes had shown himself anxious to be on good terms with the spectators, and since it was obviously needful that he should be so, this new piece of evidence does but strengthen my conviction that the Just Argument was not here addressing the spectators.

Of course, in the comedies of Aristophanes, it was quite usual for a character to make a remark straight to the audience. And the trick must have been very effective. But no character ever announced his intention of jumping down among the audience. That might have been effective, had the character proceeded to jump. But it would have been very ineffective if he had merely disappeared by a side-door. And, since the actor impersonating the Just Argument, after finishing his speech, had to run off and immediately return in the guise of Socrates, it is the more unlikely that Aristophanes, with his knowledge of the theatre, conceived the idea which Dr. Merry attributes to him.

On my supposition that the Unjust Argument was addressing, not the audience, but Socrates and the students, there was no absurdity in the exit. The character's entry into the academy was the natural illustration of the words just spoken. Similarly, the term of abuse, *βροῦμενοι*, was quite a likely term to be addressed here to Socrates and the students. But, before I pass to the construction of my own theory, let me give one more destructive blow to Dr. Merry's. The *ἱμάριον* was not a garment that would have encumbered a man in the act of jumping. It was just a piece of cloth wound over one shoulder and under the other. To wear it trailing to the ground was a rare sign of effeminacy; and we may be sure that the Just Argument, as representative of all the more sterling qualities of citizenship, did not wear it so. He would no more have doffed it before taking a jump than a twentieth century man, in similar case, would doff a jacket.

Now for my own theory. In the early part of the play, Strepsiades seeks admission to Socrates' school. "Come", says Socrates, "take your cloak off" (*κατάθου θοιμάριον*). Strepsiades asks why. Socrates replies "It is customary to enter stripped" (*γυμνούς εἰσέραι νομιζοίμεν*). Here, surely, is the key to the words of the Just Argument, "Take my cloak. I am deserting to your side." I do not know why Aristophanes represents Socrates as insisting that his pupils shall take off their cloaks. Possibly one of the Sophists had some such rule. Possibly, again, Socrates himself, who was famous for his hardness, never wore the *ἱμάριον*—a garment worn primarily for protection against cold; and he may have set this fashion to his young disciples. Possibly, again, Aristophanes uses the sacrifice of the cloak as a symbol of the avarice which he unjustly imputes to Socrates: as who should say "he leaves you without a cloak to your back". When, in the final scene, one of the disciples cries out to know who is setting fire to Socrates' house, Strepsiades answers "He whose cloak ye have stolen" (*ἡκεῖνος ὅστις θοιμάριον εἰλόφατε*). Indeed, *θοιμάριον* is a kind of leit motif throughout the play. I can hardly, with Dr. Merry, accept Hermann's conjecture of *θυμάριον* for *θοιμάριον* in line 179 of the MSS.; the pun would have been quite in Aristophanes' manner, and would have been quite obvious to an Athenian audience. But such points are immaterial to my case. Enough that throughout the play there are references to the sacrifice of Strepsiades' cloak, and that the words of the Just Argument in reference to his own cloak

have so obvious a solution in Socrates' first injunction to Strepsiades.

I trust that I have not seemed to you arrogant in this my meeting with Dr. Merry on his own ground. As I said last week, I derived, in statu pupillari, much pleasure and profit from Dr. Merry's lectures on Aristophanes. And I feel now, not as a man feels when he is bearding a lion in his den, but rather as that fabled mouse must have felt in the privilege of disentangling from a snare the lion that had erst befriended him.

MAX BEERBOHM.

#### IN THE DESERT.

AS I rode carelessly in the earliest dawn out of the city of Zamora I overtook a poor man who watered his mule by the wayside. And by chance he greeted me and asked me whither I was going. I named the city of the great Saint that lies on the other side of the desert of Salamanca towards the mountains; and since his way was mine and I was a stranger he offered me service and guidance for a certain distance. He was a man of some fifty years, a peasant who worked in the fields; the father of many sons he told me and one daughter who was married and who lived in the city of the great Saint whither I was bound. Now and then he crossed the desert to see her and since it was but yesterday he had heard that a little son had been born to her, it was necessary in spite of the summer heat that he should go to see her. "You understand Señor" he said "that she has no mother and I love her".

The sun was just rising over that boundless plain full of dust. In spite of the monotony of the landscape, the view was very beautiful under the level light of the sun; and the sky was full of a fragile glory that gives always a kind of enchantment to the dawn in the South. Not far away Zamora stood on her hilltop, just a collection of golden romanesque buildings falling into decay, surrounded by infinite light and dust. Looking on her in the dawn it was as though one heard a cry in the desert. Far, far away I descried the outlines of mountains and nearer but still far away across that burning plain a great cloud of dust rose where a herd of swine moved from one hill to another. Gently the wind came towards us out of the south with that almost inaudible whisper so common in this noiseless country and that I find is made by the passing of even the softest breath of air over millions of dead wild flowers: and indeed one may often see a harebell dead and shrivelled under that terrible sun ringing frantically in the wind of one's cloak at evening, and if one stoops down and listens even that tiny sorrowful music may be heard in the loneliness.

On the morning we crept under that hard blue sky and pitiless sun slowly, slowly, across the desert where there is neither tree nor grass, only the dead wild flowers of last spring. A great languor had fallen upon me for two days now the sun had seemed to bruise me and the immense horizons were full of wonders.

At midday we halted for the meal under the shadow of some rocks that seemed rather to radiate the heat than to bring us coolness and rest. In the afternoon we came very thirsty and covered with dust to the Douro, a great river that was full of infinite refreshment.

My companion spoke but rarely, and when he spoke at all it was rather of the desert or of nature or of God than of anything particular to himself. And yet I think indeed he was nearer to these three mysteries than I knew. After all they were his companions, and in the immense loneliness of Spain or at least of Castile he had come to know them as a man of twoscore and ten should know his friends. "And so", he said to me when he saw that I was very weary, "and so we must never forget that God has given us the hour after the sunset". And indeed it is the most precious hour of the day. But at the sunset of that day we were still far from home and the languor I had felt in the morning, that had gradually increased all day, came on me with double force. Great shadows stole out of the north, and far away in the burning west I saw the perfect rose-coloured towers of the city for which I was bound.

It was not till my mule stumbled that I realised that I was falling from my saddle.

Night fell—a night of large, few stars—and covered us with her coolness; even yet we were far from any city. And at last I could go no further and told my guide so, who without any expression of surprise lifted me from my beast, laid me under a great rock, covered me with my rug, tethered the mules and began to prepare supper. I shall not forget the beauty of that night, nor the silence under those desert stars. From afar I could hear faintly the sound of the river and the quiet breathing or champing of the mules: there was no other sound. And then suddenly I saw my companion a little way off on his knees, between the immense horizons, praying. As I watched the rugged picturesque figure of the old man his head buried on his breast, his hands clasped before him, I thought it was Spain that I had seen, alone, talking with God in the desert.

EDWARD HUTTON.

#### MOTORING.

THE racing vehicle has possibly survived its usefulness as an incentive to public interest in automobilism, but most surely has its influence waned in determining questions of design and construction as applied to touring cars. We may regard the better known continental vehicles, with the exception of the world-famous Mercedes, as being produced by evolution directly from their racing prototypes. To take an instance in point: until quite recently the various types of vehicles manufactured by the firm of Panhard and Levassor of Paris were distinguished by such titles as "Paris-Berlin", "Paris-Vienne", &c., and were in fact direct descendants of the competitors in these events. Since the commencement of the automobile industry continental practice has been to construct racing monsters of abnormal horse-power with the factor of safety reduced to a minimum and to reproduce the salient features of the survivors in the touring vehicle. Although crude from an engineering point of view it must be admitted that this "trial and error" system has worked remarkably well, but it has necessarily covered a long period of time, and it is in this factor that Great Britain has been hampered by restrictive legislation which undoubtedly delayed for several years the inception of what promises to be a very important industry.

To-day, however, we have progressed so far along the road to finality of design and construction, at all events as far as the internal combustion engine of the reciprocating type is concerned, that the experience gained from competitive tests of racing vehicles is becoming increasingly less useful both to the manufacturer and user. It is during this lull in the tide of the industry that we in this country have arrived at an appreciation of the work done by the English manufacturer, proceeding, in most cases, on a sound engineering basis. England now possesses "home-made" touring cars capable of comparison with the finest continental types, and it is for this reason that the "Tourist Trophy", a race for touring cars, now being organised by the Automobile Club of Great Britain and Ireland, should appeal to every automobilist in this country. It is proposed to hold the event next September in the Isle of Man, and we are of opinion that it should be largely supported for the following reasons.

It is a race for the purely touring car as opposed to the freak racing machine which is rapidly becoming what the touring car was in the not very remote past—the toy of the millionaire. Excessive lightness of construction, curtailment of seating accommodation, and extreme speed are prevented by the provisions of the regulations which, by the way, we hope to be able shortly to present to our readers, while the fuel limitation must have the effect of causing car designers to study not only the efficiency of their motors but also the efficiency of every portion of the transmission gear, the latter frequently a hopelessly neglected point.

As a sporting event it will not only have the attraction which attaches to all races but it will possess an additional interest in that the fastest car may lose the race by running short of petrol, possibly quite close to the finishing post; that is to say, a competitor may lose by



entering a car which is inefficient or which possesses too big an engine in comparison with the limitation of fuel imposed by the regulations.

It is an accepted fact that some of the best known cars are very inefficient as regards fuel consumption for work done. Mr. Dugald Clerk in a paper read at a meeting of the Automobile and Cycle Engineers' Institute alluded to this subject and advocated raising the thermal efficiency of petrol engines, at the same time pointing out the advantages which would obtain if the fuel consumption per horse-power were reduced. He also stated that in his opinion makers of motor-car engines had neglected this point and went on to show that the thermal efficiency of gas-engines had increased in the last twenty years from 16 per cent. to 33 per cent., whereas the full-load efficiency of a typical motor-car engine tested by him was only 19 per cent. He attributed this increase of efficiency in gas-engines to competition among the manufacturers, who, he said, did everything they could to beat a competitor by a quarter of a cubic foot per indicated horse-power per hour, the result of this competition being not only beneficial owing to reduction in consumption, but also in many other respects.

We may expect the race for the "Tourist Trophy" to supply this much-needed competition, and if the result be merely in the direction of increase of thermal efficiency the industry will be greatly benefited.

### BRIDGE.

THE advent of the game of bridge to London was on this wise. One afternoon the customary rubber of whist was being played at the Portland Club, which has long been the recognised headquarters of scientific card games. Among the players was Lord Brougham, who had recently returned from the South of Europe. When it came to his turn to deal, he omitted to turn up the last or trump card, placing it face downwards on his own pack and his opponents claimed a misdeal in accordance with the laws of the game. He apologised to his partner, saying "I am very sorry but I forgot that I was not playing bridge". "Bridge", said the others, "what is bridge?" To which he replied that it was by far the best card game ever invented. After the rubber was over someone suggested that Lord Brougham should show them this wonderful game, which he at once proceeded to do, and from that day onward bridge was an established fact at the Portland Club. From the Portland it very soon travelled to the Turf Club, where it met with a still warmer welcome than at the Portland; after this it spread to other clubs, and wherever it was once introduced it was welcomed with open arms as a delightful change from the stereotyped methods and precise formulæ of scientific whist. It was some years before bridge became popular in country houses and before ladies discovered that it was a game eminently suited to their capabilities, but when once the discovery was made it spread like wild fire, until at the present day it is played in all societies and by all classes and it is quite the exception nowadays to find anyone who is not a bridge player of some sort. The great charm of the game lies in its infinite variety and the many opportunities that it affords for individual enterprise and for the exercise of the qualities of intuition and perception. No two games are ever alike, and it is possible to play a very forward game and back your luck, as it is called, or to play a careful game and risk little or nothing, according to the taste and fancy of the individual player. The standard of play has improved enormously in the last three or four years, and first-class players are to be met with now in almost every class of society.

One is sometimes asked who is the best bridge player one knows and it is a difficult question to answer. Bridge is, after all, a game of considerable limitations. It is impossible to do more than make the most of the cards dealt to you, and there are many players who can be trusted to do that. The best bridge player who ever lived cannot conjure with the cards, and turn threes and fours into aces and kings, he can only do the utmost possible with the goods provided. There are a considerable number of players who would

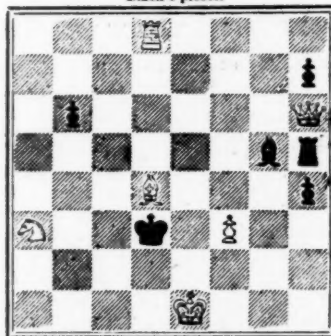
play a better game, and find that they were more successful, if they did not try to play so well, that is to say, if they did not look out so much for opportunities to play coups, but would play a plain straightforward game and simply make the most of their cards according to the lights they possess. The opportunities for playing coups are very rare, and the players who have the necessary quickness and ability to avail themselves of these opportunities are rarer still. The most dangerous and expensive partner that one can have to play with is the man or woman who is always trying to get one trick more out of the hand than the cards justly warrant, either by holding up winning cards or refusing to win a trick, or by playing false cards, or adopting any such like crooked measures. It is a golden rule, and the most essential one for every beginner to lay to heart, that the more plain and straightforward he can make his game, the better it will be for the joint interests of his partner and himself. The first element of success in every partnership concern is that the partners should be on good terms with one another, and should work for a common object. This applies strongly to bridge, and every player, on sitting down to play a rubber, should try to make of his temporary partnership a joint, pleasant and successful concern, instead of a disjointed connexion of two interests at variance with one another.

### CHESS.

#### PROBLEM 2.

Specially contributed by Mr. H. GREENWELL.

Black 6 pieces.



White 6 pieces.

White to mate in two moves.

The solution to above will appear next week.

#### SOLUTION TO PROBLEM I.

1. Kt-QKt7. If K moves, 2. Kt-B5; if P moves 2. Kt-K7.

The following game, played in the British Federation Tournament at Hastings, illustrates the risk of offering or accepting material in the extreme corner of the field of operations.

#### IRREGULAR OPENING.

White	Black	White	Black
Dr. Manlove	Mr. Richmond		
1. Kt-KB3	P-KB4	7. Castles	Castles
2. P-Q4	Kt-KB3	8. Kt-K2	Kt-K5
3. P-K3	P-K3	9. P-QR3	B-K2
4. P-QB4	P-QKt3	10. P-QKt3	P-Q3
5. B-Q3	B-Kt5 ch	11. Kt-B4	B-B1
6. Kt-B3	B-Kt2		

The sort of bad move which only a good player can make. Mr. Richmond has determined to sacrifice his queen's rook for whatever he can get.

12. Q-B2 P-KK4

Otherwise it seems absurd to compromise the K's position with the Q's side worse than undeveloped.

- |           |      |         |       |
|-----------|------|---------|-------|
| 13. BxKt. | PxB  | 15. QxP | Q-Q2  |
| 14. KtxKP | BxKt | 16. QxR | P-Kt5 |

White ought to have continued 14 QxP, leaving the Kt en pris. Then, if P-Q4, 15 PxP, PxKt, 16 P-Q6. It is this last move which both players

overlooked. If, instead, Black plays 14  $P \times Kt$ , then White proceeds with  $Q \times R$ , withdrawing it next move. As played, the queen cannot retire into safety without loss of material.

- |             |              |                  |              |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| 17. $Kt-K1$ | $P-B3$       | 20. $P \times P$ | $R-B1$       |
| 18. $P-Q5$  | $B-B2$       | 21. $P-R5$       | $Kt-R3$      |
| 19. $P-QR4$ | $P \times P$ | 22. $Q \times R$ | $Q \times Q$ |

And White resigned in a few moves.

As expected the Janowski-Marshall match has terminated in a victory for the latter. Examination of the games shows that Marshall was always himself whenever he could induce his opponent to take something for nothing, whereas Janowski became so disconcerted at such generosity as to lose every sense of judgment. The winner, moreover, showed considerable improvement as a tactician. Before the match he mercilessly condemned the French defence and vigorously commended  $P-KB4$  against the Ruy Lopez. Yet he played the former at the first opportunity and the latter only when he had the match well in hand. Evidently Marshall had studied his man and weighed him up. Janowski was seen at his best if, when discovering the slightest weakness in his opponent's game, it occupied twenty moves to demonstrate it. To him excess of material was valuable only when obtained as the result of his own initiative. On the whole the match proved disappointing. Several games reached a high standard, but blunders were too frequent in an event of such importance.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### RUSSIA AND PEACE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

63 Cheyne Walk, S.W.

SIR,—In view of the reported terms upon which Russia would be ready to discuss peace with Japan, I should be glad to have an opportunity of demonstrating to your readers that, so far from these terms really heralding the probability of peace, they mark practically and beyond dispute that the Russian Bureaucracy has not the faintest idea as to either Japan's reasons for making war or the very definite guarantees that will have to be secured in order that the peace when made will be a lasting one. Nothing in the nature of a peace according to the ideas of Admiral Dubassof will be discussed, and yet it would seem that the Russian authorities are proceeding very much along the lines laid down by that indiscreet officer. The terms now mentioned as immense Russian concessions scarcely go further than those seriously proposed to the Tsar by General Kuropatkin in a memorial on his return from a tour in Manchuria and Japan some time before the war. Kuropatkin urged in the very strongest terms the necessity for avoiding war with Japan, and made the following suggestions as to the best way in which peace could be maintained. He advocated such sweeping changes that his honest memorandum earned him a severe reproof before it was buried in an obscure Russian pigeon-hole. The General who is now at the head of the Russian forces in Manchuria advocated that Korea should be handed completely over to Japan, with however a small rectification of the frontier near Vladivostok; that Port Arthur and the whole of southern Manchuria up to Kharbin should be evacuated by the Russian troops and the province handed back to China. The railway south of Kharbin he wished to see sold back to China. The northern part of Manchuria including the railway to Vladivostok was to be under the Russian control. Save that now there is a proposal to make Vladivostok a neutral port, without stating under what guarantees, and that Port Arthur would go to Japan instead of to China, the terms thought to be great concessions after a year of war and Russian defeat are the same as those suggested by Kuropatkin before there had been any Russian defeat, and while Russian prestige still stood high in the East. In these circumstances it can hardly be held that the Russians have travelled far along the road towards a serious realisation of the situation and

the terms necessary for making peace. It must not be forgotten also that, in making concessions in Manchuria and Korea, Russia is dealing in the property of other nations. Thus the only real concessions offered are the giving up of Port Arthur, which she has already lost, and the neutralisation of Vladivostok. Who can venture to say that these concessions are enough to compensate Japan for her losses in men and money during the war, or that they are such as to ensure a permanent preservation of the peace?

That there is a large and growing party in Russia anxious for peace is no news, but it is doubtful whether they will have either the ability or the real courage to make suitable proposals. It must not be forgotten that the existing Government in Russia remains in power largely because of the support of the army. Is it probable that they could regard with any degree of equanimity the return to that army of their comrades of the Manchurian forces, whose advent could hardly be considered as likely to raise the Government in the estimation of the soldiers who have not been through the trials and mismanagement at the front? This may seem a fanciful danger but those who have seen specimens of the many letters recently arriving at the Russian General Staff office in S. Petersburg from the officers of the Manchurian army as to the state of feeling in the troops would soon be convinced that here there exists a very serious deterrent in the pathway of peace. Another lion in the path is to be found in the fact that Russia, in adhering to Mr. Hay's neutrality of China circular, practically acknowledged that she had no right to consider Manchuria as coming within the scope of Russian proposals for peace. The Russian authorities realise now that they have cut the ground from under their own feet and arrived willy nilly at the Japanese point of view, which is that any negotiations relating to Manchuria affect only China as soon as the Russian occupation ceases to be a fact. The recent indictment of Chinese neutrality was undoubtedly the first step on the part of the Russian authorities towards a declaration that, as China had violated her promises, Russia resumed full liberty of action with regard to Manchuria. The next step would have been the proclamation of the annexation of Manchuria to Russia, which would have provided a much more solid basis for Russian peace proposals than at present exists.

Everything being taken into consideration, it must be acknowledged that, although there is no chance of Russia being able to continue the war with any hope of success, the moment of peace has not yet come. When that moment does come it will be found that Japan will have secured such terms, almost certainly including an indemnity and other real Russian concessions, as will set peace in the Far East upon a permanent and abiding basis. I am sure that no nation should be more glad to see this consummation than Great Britain, and it is therefore in the nation's interest to do everything to ensure the success of the Japanese proposals when the peace terms are being discussed.

I am yours, &c.

ALFRED STEAD.

### THE ADEN HINTERLAND MEDALS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Recently you called attention to the issue of medals for the Aden Hinterland operations; and since then the Secretary of State for India has stated that no medals are to be given. But the despatches relating thereto have now been published in the "London Gazette" on the authority of both the Imperial and Indian Governments. Throughout the conditions are described as active service ones. Names have been "mentioned in despatches" &c., and the whole affair carries with it all the other circumstances and paraphernalia of war. But surely it is grotesquely incongruous to treat operations in the matter of despatches &c. as active service; and in other respects, such as the bestowal of medals, as peace.

The facts of the case are briefly as follows. These operations first arose through the necessity of protecting the members of the Commission who were appointed, in conjunction with Turkish commissioners,



to define the sphere of British and Turkish influence in Southern Arabia. British troops were accordingly sent into the Hinterland; and about the same time occurred the rising of the Kotaibi and other Arab tribesmen, with the result that communications with Aden were from time to time threatened, and isolated garrisons attacked and in some cases besieged by tribes well armed with more or less modern weapons. The theatre of operations, from a military standpoint, was one of exceptional difficulty. It was a barren roadless and unhealthy neighbourhood, which rendered the operations in question excessively arduous and difficult. Three British regiments—Dublin Fusiliers, Hampshire Regiment, and Buffs—some Artillery details and various native Indian units and detachments were at different times sent up into the Hinterland. It is true that the list of killed and wounded—though greater than in many campaigns for which medals have been awarded—was not excessive; although, as is always the case, the list of casualties through sickness was considerably larger. But through the absence of war correspondents this series of small campaigns has never received its due measure of attention at the hands of the public; and as a consequence the authorities have also followed suit.

But the real moral is the tactlessness and folly of treating soldiers thus. This naturally causes and has caused discontent, and what is far more important it acts most injuriously on recruiting. The troops concerned have admittedly taken part in arduous and difficult operations, and there can be no question that they have thoroughly deserved some recognition, which could easily and cheaply be done by the bestowal of medals. No doubt after a long lapse of time, as in many previous cases, this will be done. But how much wiser and more gracious to do so at once.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

FAIR PLAY.

#### DE PROFUNDIS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Alive with sympathy as is Mr. Cunningham Graham's notice of "De Profundis", he yet seems to me to have omitted to mention the most significant point in the book. Perhaps, indeed, he has omitted it deliberately as a thing too painful on which to dwell. And yet for the reader it will remain the most haunting memory of this revelation of a man's soul. In prison Oscar Wilde discovered, and in this volume he reveals something hitherto hidden away in his nature "like a treasure in a field"—Humility. It needed poignant suffering to develop this trait in his character, and what seems to me to be most significant and most powerful in the volume is the realisation by Wilde of the necessity for a nature such as his undergoing the fiery ordeal. So soon as he realised that his sufferings were not "without meaning", that they constituted a necessary part of his mental and spiritual development, he was freed from any bitterness of feeling against the world.

Mr. Cunningham Graham states that what attracts him most in the book is that the "point of view is still unchanged". This is in a sense true. Oscar Wilde was an individualist to the last. To him expression was "the only mode under which he can conceive life at all". But granting that his nature remained unchanged throughout, surely the "point of view" of the man in "De Profundis" is utterly different from that manifested at any other period of his existence. When he wrote—"I let myself be lured into long spells of senseless and sensual ease . . . I forgot that every little action of the common day makes or unmakes character, and that therefore what one has done in the secret chamber one has some day to cry aloud on the house-top. I ceased to be lord over myself. I allowed pleasure to dominate me . . . I ended in horrible disgrace. There is only one thing for me now, absolute humility"—he struck a note that appears in no other of his works. Who could imagine that Oscar Wilde, to whom visible things meant always so much, could write "the external things of life seem to me now of no importance at all"? Or who would have expected from him the confession "Terrible as

what the world did to me, what I did to myself was more terrible still"? "Sorrow", says Dante, "remarries us to God", and it was through sorrow that Oscar Wilde, at the time of writing at least, entered upon the "New Life". "There are times", he wrote, "when sorrow seems to me to be the only truth. Other things may be illusions of the eye or the appetite made to blind the one and clog the other, but out of sorrow have the worlds been built, and at the birth of a child or a star there is pain". Surely here as throughout the book the reader acquainted with Oscar Wilde's other work must detect the most significant of changes. He had indeed, as he himself admitted, "cleansed his mind of much perilous stuff".

Yours truly,

A. E. MANNING-FOSTER.

#### "MEALS MEDICINAL."

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

4 Pembroke Villas, The Green, Richmond, S.W.,  
26 February, 1905.

SIR,—Allow one who aspires to be a gentleman the right to claim justice at the hands of your literary reviewer. In a press notice by him of my "Meals Medicinal" I am styled "a positive buffoon, grotesque, bizarre, vulgar, and muddleheaded". These epithets are, I suppose, within his rights, and do not constitute the cause of my grievance. But when he writes "there is no attempt made to compose, or arrange any varieties of food as a regular diet for any species of complaint; though it is proposed to furnish 'curative foods from the cook in place of drugs from the chemist'" it is evident that in his haste to condemn he has altogether overlooked the heading of my amplified index at the end! This heading precisely supplies what he proclaims to be lacking! It reads thus: "Diseases and minor ailments: with dishes, and drinks (of medicinal parts) proper, and sufficient for the curative treatment of each malady." Now, sir, "fair play is a jewel", and having done this public wrong to a writer (of probably twice his own age) to whom a measure of praise has been otherwise meted without exception he is bound to make me equally public amends. No Englishman of upright disposition can fail to do otherwise. I write dispassionately, but with a sharp sense of injury, whilst remaining obediently yours,

W. T. FERNIE.

(An actual British Doctor of Medicine, though your reviewer does his utmost to cast doubt on this qualification.)

#### PREDESTINATION AND PERSECUTION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Savile Club, 107 Piccadilly, W., 4 March.

SIR,—In my view it would waste too much of your space and my time to discuss the refinements of what is respectively meant by "a doctrine" or "the doctrine" of Predestination. In either case it appears to me that the Anglican clergyman is precluded from a belief in what is known as "Free Will", and most Anglican clergymen I have known would be shocked if they were called determinists.

In regard to your reviewer's remark that my theology is "amazing" and to your own remark that I have "utterly misunderstood and misrepresented" Article XVII., I would only observe that the words "godly consideration of Predestination and our election in Christ" by "godly persons and such as feel in themselves the working of the Spirit of Christ" are too strictly qualified to convey to me the same meaning as the mental process implied by the words "Think about it", but this is a point on which we may legitimately differ. "Curious and carnal persons" are at least alive to the practical disadvantages of the doctrine.

Yours truly,

E. S. P. HAYNES.

## MAGISTRATES AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

17 South Street, Finsbury, E.C.

SIR,—My attention having been drawn to the article in your issue of 18 February last regarding Magistrates and the Public Health Act, and knowing you recognise that there are two sides to every question I beg to offer a few observations in answer to the conclusions arrived at by your contributor.

At the outset may I say, that the Association of which I have the honour to be Secretary will not receive into its membership any person who is known to own slum property, and that the aggregate value of the various members' holdings exceeds £10,000,000 sterling. I am not defending slum owners in any way, but there are other owners of small property who come under the castigation of your article in whose interest I write.

Your contributor says "in common criminal cases he (the Magistrate) is right, and sympathy is a virtue" presumably with the criminal. "But he misconceives the Sanitary Acts entirely if he administers them with this idea". Now sir I seriously ask, has the day of fair-play in English law courts been superseded by bias and prejudice against a class, the members of which however just their cause would fail to obtain justice? To carry it to its logical conclusion, the writer of the article would say, be sympathetic to the murderer, the forger, the bigamist and the burglar, but to the property owner, extend no consideration. This in cold ink does not read well, but that is a fair deduction from the language employed.

Many of the members of my Association own property acquired through thrift and the agency of Building Societies. Surely, sir, you do not allege the man who has denied himself certain pleasures in which other men indulge, to make provision for his old age, and to leave a little inheritance for his children, is to be treated in a degree less justly than the criminal, because a drain is stopped up, or a ceiling is dirty, in one of the houses in which he has made his investment?

Now what are "these recurrent nuisances always festering and never cured". It is to be regretted the man who penned such words should not have been a little explicit. Because if a drain is meant, if the defect is remedied, the nuisance cannot be recurrent; if dirty walls and ceilings are meant, this may be the fault of the occupier and not of the owner of the house; if a battered receptacle for refuse is meant, the fault might lie at the door of the sanitary authority whose employees frequently damage the galvanised dustbins on the side of their cart in endeavouring to shake out the adhering refuse. The Medical Officer's wife is acquainted with "spring cleaning" doubtless, and that is recurrent; as well might it be attempted to fix upon the freeholder of his house that annual nuisance, as to charge the owner with "an always festering nuisance" caused by the slatternliness of the occupier's wife. Such is a specimen of vicariousness, not even contemplated in theology.

The statement that the magistrates will not view the properties out of which proceedings arise is inaccurate. Let me give two instances contemporary with your article. At Southwark Mr. Cecil Chapman was asked to make a closing order against certain cottages down a cul desac by reason of their being unfit for human habitation. He visited the property and found them shut in by higher buildings, but not in the condition warranting him in making such an order and he awarded the defendant five guineas costs. In the second case Mr. D'Eyncourt at Clerkenwell was asked to order traps to sinks in rooms in Ebury Street, Holloway, the effect of which was that the water in the seal would stagnate and accentuate the very evil it was sought to cure. As constructed the sinks were drained by a 2-inch glazed pipe which immediately passed through the brick wall discharging over a hopper-head and finally emptying over a trapped gully in the yard. The magistrate paid a surprise visit to the property and found the case had been presented to him in a grossly exaggerated way, and in this instance awarded five guineas costs.

I am yours &amp;c.

H. J. JOHNSTON,

Secretary of the Incorporated Association for the Protection of Property Owners.

## REVIEWS.

## GOD'S WHIGS.

"England under the Stuarts." By G. M. Trevelyan.  
London: Methuen. 1904. 10s. 6d. net.

THE inevitable comparison between grand-nephew and great-uncle may be dismissed with the remark that Mr. Trevelyan makes no attempt to write Macaulayese, for which an historian has now neither time nor space, but possesses a clever, pleasant style of his own, light, readable, and smart; also that William is not apotheosised, as in a Verrio ceiling, borne up to Olympus on clouds by fleshy personifications and indecent virtues, but gets to heaven at once, with modern directness, in a lift. The Whig standpoint is, of course, taken for granted—*συγγενὲς γὰρ ἦν*—it runs in the family. But whereas Macaulay, while taking care to let the Tory dogs have the worst of it, was too good a rhetorician not to make a show of setting forth the ideals of both sides in the great struggle, Mr. Trevelyan does not profess to find anything in Anglican or Cavalier conceptions of life which is worthy of respect. His task is thus a simple one. Mr. Oman, the general editor of this "History of England in six volumes", says that, while the series is intended to give more than a mere outline of our annals, there will be in it "no space for controversy". By entirely ignoring what the other side has to say for itself Mr. Trevelyan manages successfully to keep unseemly differences of opinion out of the most controversial period of English history. The weak balancings of other recent historians, their feeble efforts to be fair, are not for him. There is but one test of persons and causes. Are they, or are they not, on the side of Anglo-Saxon parliamentary Protestantism? Oranges or lemons? Creta an carbone notandi? Charles I. was not an English but an "Anglican" King. Then of course he brought his fate on himself. Half the nation clung to the ideals of the older world, had dreams of a real Church and a real Throne, desired to conserve the mysteries of religion and the poetry of government. It was clearly the duty, then, of the other half to suppress conceptions so retrograde, kindly—not with the short-sighted confiscations, proscriptions and oppressions of 1646—but firmly. Not that Mr. Trevelyan has any intention of being unjust. It is true that not a single word friendly to the Church of England escapes him, save that in a foot-note he says that "Anglicanism encouraged a certain breadth of mind". The golden period of English theological learning and orthodox piety does not receive in "England Under the Stuarts" even a sentence, and the age of saints and students appears to the reader to have consisted of pluralist pedants relying on the Star Chamber before the Restoration and of tantivy parsons—the clergy are always "the parsons" in this volume—allied to fox-hunting squires after it. The names of Herbert, Crashaw and Ferrar, of Andrewes, Bull, Taylor, Ken and Collier, of Dodwell, Nelson and Law, are not once mentioned. Nor yet the religious movement out of which sprang the S.P.C.K. and S.P.G. Still, the silly caricature of Laud by which Macaulay discredited himself as an historian, does not reappear in Mr. Trevelyan's pages. To that brave, honest Churchman, devoid of cruelty, a fearless assertor of morality and ecclesiastical decency against the rich and powerful, a munificent patron of learning, the worst fault here imputed personally is donnishness; he fancied he could reform England as he had reformed Oxford, whereas the temper of the time resented the suppression of even a scandal like Paul's Walk as clerical interference. The beheading of the old man was "a bad act" begotten of "a mean spirit of revenge" and illustrating "the malignant spirit that always haunted and sometimes possessed the temple of English Puritanism".

Strafford's execution, again, is shown by Mr. Trevelyan to have been a judicial, or rather legislative, murder. Of that man of "princely intellect and royal valour" he observes that "he served England well, for he dignified her history". Nothing is more finely said even in Mozley's magnificent essay on Strafford. The tragedy of 30 January, 1649, is "the enormous deed". The Royalists are admitted to have fought not for class



privileges or any unworthy end, but as risking their all for their King; "and therefore they have become for all ages the type of pure loyalty"; therefore in the earlier stages of the fratricidal strife honourable usage was rendered by foe to foe—how different from the horrors perpetrated when puritan met papist; even at Naseby a hundred Irishwomen were butchered, hiding among the baggage. There was more ferocity in the second war; witness Colchester and the hundreds of free Englishmen sold into slavery; witness the ruffianly profanation everywhere of holy places, Sergeant Nehemiah and his comrades dancing of a Sunday morning during service in Hereford Cathedral in front of the altar—"whereat the Baalists were sore displeased"—and many similar or worse scenes. Kirke's Lambs, it appears, were old Cromwellians, trained in this later school. And, while Mr. Trevelyan ingeminates his perpetual formulæ about tyranny and freedom, he does not pretend to any illusions as to the revolutionary attitude of the Commons, or deny that the law and constitution were on the King's side. Elliot and the Girondist respectables began, no doubt, with musty researches into antiquated constitutional lore. But when Pym and "a band of self-elected tribunes" seized the reins, the "narrow legalism of the Parliament men" and the "stiff gentlemanly Protestantism of the earlier patriots" made way for open treason and iconoclasm. The "ideal of a loyal Parliament and a gracious King working together, each within the limits allotted by the Constitution, was perceived by Pym to be a dream". Had Charles' Government been flawless, the Commons were still resolved to be for the first time sovereign in the State, control the armed forces of the Crown, issue ordinances over the King's head and correspond with his enemies behind his back. Mr. Trevelyan admits this, though he glides over most of the evidence for it dry-footed. It was the ill fate of the Stuarts to inherit an old autocracy only to find themselves confronted by a new democracy. The Tudors would have mended the old bottles to hold the new wine. They would have thrown away the shadow and kept the substance. But the more scrupulous Stuarts were encumbered by ideal theory, by Scotch logic, and by conscience. The air was filled with ideas of *jus*, and *jus divinum* clashed with *jus naturale*. Freedom of speech and of person had been unknown under Elizabeth, who moreover allowed Parliament to meet only thirteen times in forty-five years, and then to register her behests. The Protectorate's little finger was thicker than the loins of the Monarchy, and under it arbitrary imprisonment, fines, banishments, forced taxation, suppression of free speech and of liberty of worship were carried to lengths whereof prerogative never dreamed. Certainly that digression expired, as Mr. Trevelyan says, like the Rump Parliament before it, amid universal hatred. England woke from it as from a sick dream. But the Commonwealth Dictator did, after all, claim to govern in the people's name. A glorified subaudition of social compact lay also behind the Tudor despotism. The forces, on the other hand, which clashed and countered at Edgehill and Marston Moor were two theories of government, the mystical or Christian and the modern or democratic. And behind these was the controversy about the Church. Is it a supernatural society having divine powers and a perpetual government from the Apostles, or only a reflexion of the national will about religion—a congregation or an aggregation? from above or from below? However indistinctly the Parliamentarians perceived this to be the thing in dispute, Mr. Trevelyan perceives it clearly. He knows the seamy side of Puritanism, of which Milton and Bunyan were literary offshoots, fermenting geniuses made vocal by the beautiful past, but the manners and literature of Chicago and Sydney are the developed flower. He is conscious that parliamentary government kept its gloss for a few years only, and was bound to end in Eatanswill elections, in Taper and Tadpole, and in all the dreary wrangle of ins and outs. He does not forget that his apostles of freedom were militarists and jingoes, that they burnt witches, flogged Quakers, bored Socinian tongues, oppressed papists and ostracised prelatists, "hated the very sound of Toleration", ruined for centuries to come the government

and happiness of Ireland, which the saints divided among themselves as Joshua's followers did Canaan. For the mild rule of the Church and benignant doctrine of the Prayer-book they substituted the disciplinary inquisition and the "horrible decretum, fateor" of the Institutes. They were not contending for dissent outside the Church's communion, nor even for nonconformity (Mr. Trevelyan unhistorically calls this "conformity") inside it, but for a compulsory State Calvinism to be imposed by law upon all and enforced by fine and imprisonment. Nevertheless our author hails them as the unconscious prophets of revolt against all authority. "The victory of Free Will would establish a coercive and despotic government, a sacramental and priestly religion: while [the agreeable doctrine of exclusive salvation] implied privilege of Parliament, liberty of person, Protestant ascendancy." Puritan God-fearingness was a half-way house to the rationalism and indifferentism of 1688, and sectarian enthusiasts were paving the way of the Sadducismus triumphans and Hoadlyism of the Hanoverian epoch.

Given, then, Mr. Trevelyan's standpoint that everything which makes for Whiggery is historically good and everything else historically bad, history is greatly simplified. God's Englishmen are Liberals and Low Church, and there's an end of the matter. No matter which bird built the nest, the cuckoo occupied it as of right. Finding "with horror" that their new King leaned to High Church advisers, the Parliament of 1625-29 "determined to strike before they were struck". Mr. Trevelyan makes much of an old threat of James I. against the successors of Marprelate, and the ousting of 300 incumbents in 1604 for refusing to subscribe to the royal supremacy, the Common Prayer, and Articles. After all, every association must have some rules. He perhaps has not studied the doctrinal and ceremonial demands of the dissidents. One of the leading accusations against Laud at his trial was that he had taught the offer of salvation through Christ to all men. Mr. Trevelyan cannot deny doctrinal breadth and charity to the "new school" of Laud and Taylor; but because the bishops enforced the decencies of worship on priests whose churches lay nastily and whose religious system was utterly incompatible with the Prayer-book, which they regarded as an abominable idol, because foul and scurrilous libels were punished, because highly-placed offenders were humbled, Anglicanism was a tyranny, an "intrigue of greedy priests to get some petty advantage over other creeds". We note also some defect of candour in the statement that the nonconformists ejected from benefices in 1662 suffered for their refusal to assert unfeigned consent and assent to everything in the Prayer-book. These intruders were turned out for refusing episcopal ordination. Conscientious men, no doubt, but the point was vital. Besides, a Calvinist declined to be pastor to his whole flock, confining himself to the godly and converted. The 2,000 clergy ejected in 1646 were not only ousted but rabbled as well.

What our author falls foul of is not merely "the Catholic conception of the Church" but the ideal, shared by all except the Brownists, of what Swift calls "a national faith". Toleration, after all, is only a pis aller, a virtue, as Aristotle says of shame, *ἡ ἐπιεικής*. The Restoration failed to heal the breaches in the nation's religion, and thenceforward toleration became a necessity. But the struggles of the seventeenth century were not the scuffling of kites and crows, but the clinging of Church and sects alike to the conception of one nation one Church, each faith aiming at its own dominance. Mr. Trevelyan in his first chapter gives us a cultured and pleasing description of the social state of England. A philosopher would have gone below the surface of conventionalities about despotism and freedom, and touched at least on the bases of authority and liberty in Church and State, on the theories of government then emerging, on the growth of humanitarianism and rationalism and other topics which give the seventeenth century an absorbing interest. An epigrammatic sketch flavoured with hereditary prejudice is hardly scientific history.

## THE FIRST COLLECTED CHAUCER.

"The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer and others. Being a Reproduction in Facsimile of the First Collected Edition, 1532, from the Copy in the British Museum." With an Introduction by Walter W. Skeat. Oxford: at the University Press. 1905. £5 5s. net.

THIS fine collotype facsimile of the editio princeps of Chaucer's collected works is a companion volume to the equally splendid edition of the First Folio of Shakespeare issued, under the editorship of Mr. Sidney Lee, from the same press. The name of Professor Skeat is a sufficient guarantee for the efficiency with which all that pertains to the duties of an editor has been done. The student of Chaucer has indeed a reproduction of the rare and now almost priceless volume published by Thynne in 1532 so perfect as to be practically indistinguishable from the original. The necessarily very high price at which this facsimile is issued will unfortunately place it out of the reach of most private libraries, and makes its possession by the majority of those who would appreciate it most highly an impossibility; but we hope that it will find purchasers in those who select the books for important public libraries, and so be rendered accessible to all readers of Chaucer, and they will be many, who wish to inspect and consult it.

Many thousands have enjoyed and will enjoy Chaucer's poetry who trouble themselves very little about either the preservation or tradition of its text, but the history of that text is full of interest. For nearly three quarters of a century after his death Chaucer's works remained in manuscript and when they began to be printed in the latter quarter of the fifteenth century they were so scattered that no complete collection of them was possible. Caxton, Pynson and Wynkyn de Worde gave to the press the "Canterbury Tales", five editions of which appeared indeed before 1532, and they printed also several of the minor poems including "The House of Fame", "The Parliament of Fowles", "Troilus and Cressida", but they went no further, for the simple reason that no other manuscripts were accessible to them. Pynson did most for the old poet, and his edition published in 1526 was by far the fullest till that of Thynne appeared six years afterwards. Of Chaucer's first editor, for to that honour William Thynne is fairly entitled, comparatively little is known. He was the son of John de la Inne and Jane Bowdler, and in 1532 was chief clerk of the kitchen to Henry VIII. Subsequently he was appointed one of the Masters of the Household. He married one Anne Bond and by her became the father of a son, Francis, who inherited his tastes and became a voluminous writer. William, after having lived to see through the press the Second Folio of Chaucer died in August 1546, and was buried in the Church of Allhallows, Barking, near the Tower of London, where a brass to his memory may still be seen.

Chaucer certainly owes more to his first editor than Shakespeare owed to his first editors. Thynne has not perplexed posterity by being guilty of the scandalous negligence which detracts from the gratitude owing to those who first collected Shakespeare's dramas, and in truth this editio princeps of the father of our poetry contrasts in every way very favourably with the editio princeps of the king of all poets. Thanks, indeed, to Thynne and his predecessors, the text of Chaucer, though it goes back so far in point of time, is in a much more satisfactory state than that of Shakespeare. For the greatest defect in his work, namely the attribution of many pieces to Chaucer which do not belong to him and which he could not possibly have written, Thynne can hardly be regarded as responsible. Of philology he like his contemporaries practically knew nothing, being equally ignorant of dialectical peculiarities as well as of the characteristics of the English generally of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The consequence is that of the twenty-two pieces which he prints for the first time only six have any pretensions to being genuine, namely "The Romaunt of the Rose"—and from that according to Dr. Skeat and others

deductions have to be made—"The Legend of Good Women", "The Book of the Duchess", "The Complaint to Pity", "Lack of Steadfastness" and the "Treatise on the Astrolabe". But how great is our debt to an editor who first gave us "The Legend" and "The Book of the Duchess".

The least satisfactory portion of Thynne's text is, strangely enough, that of "The Canterbury Tales". Its variations from Caxton's second edition are almost invariably for the worse. Thynne indeed appears not to have derived anything from manuscript sources, but to have followed implicitly Caxton's first and very faulty edition; thus he confounds the order of the Squire's and Franklyn's tales, a blunder rectified by Caxton in his second edition. In the opening lines of the Prologue by the omission of "to" in the line

"The drought of Marche had perced to the rote"

and by the omission of "in" in the line

"Enspered hath in every holte and heth"

he ruins the metre. And such blemishes are, unhappily, typical of other portions of his text. But for many of the poems his text is of priceless value. Thus, for upwards of three hundred and fifty years his text of "The Legend of Good Women" was the only one; and this applies to a portion and a not inconsiderable portion of "The Romaunt of the Rose", as well as to "The Testament of Love" the text of which is derived solely from him. Thynne's most remarkable attempt at "editing" is when he turns the Lowland Scotch of "The Testament of Cressida", which ought of course to have had no place in his volume, into Southern English, probably supposing that it would thus be rendered more intelligible to Chaucer's English readers. It may be observed in passing that Thynne probably prints as Chaucer's poems which were inspired by him or which have some close connexion with his works, not because he believed that Chaucer wrote them, but simply because they belonged to the work of his school. He could hardly have been ignorant that Chaucer could not possibly have written either "The Testament of Cressida" or the "Assembly of Ladies" as in the first poem the author Robert Henryson speaks of himself as a reader of Chaucer, and the author of the second speaks of herself as a woman. In this uncritical hospitality as an editor Thynne unhappily set a bad example which subsequent editors were not slow to follow. The consequence is that in some of the later editions of the poet the poems demonstrably spurious are almost as numerous as those which are genuine.

It is curious that Thynne should not have written the preface to his edition and still more curious that this should not have been discovered till very recently. Yet so it was; an inscription in the writer's own hand places this beyond doubt. "This preface I, sir Bryan Tuke, knight wrot at the request of Mr. Clarke of the Kechyn then being taryng for the tyde at Grenewich." This note was discovered in Tuke's handwriting at the top of Thynne's dedication in a copy of Godfray's edition belonging to the library of Clare College, Cambridge.

In conclusion we cannot forbear adding that such works as these, so flawless in their execution and their appointments, do honour both to the enterprise of their publishers and to the zeal of their editors. They must necessarily to some extent, particularly on the part of their editors, be labours of love and cannot repay, at any rate pecuniarily, the time and labour expended on them. Being beyond the reach of most private persons and yet indispensable to serious students of our old classics, they ought to find a place in all our leading public libraries, the committees of which, we are sorry to hear, are too generally indifferent to the interest and importance of these invaluable contributions to textual criticism. We would suggest that at the next annual meeting of Librarians this question should be discussed and brought prominently to the notice of Library Committees.



### EMMET AND THE HARDWICKE VICEROYALTY.

**"The Viceroy's Post-bag: Correspondence hitherto Unpublished of the Earl of Hardwicke, first Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland after the Union." By Michael Macdonagh. London: Murray. 1904. 12s. net.**

WHEN the Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland became law the leaders of the Irish Roman Catholics, lay and clerical, were for the most part inclined to accept the new system without prejudice. The immediate grant of Catholic Emancipation would have proved the Imperial Parliament capable of wider views than the Protestant legislature of Ireland, and would have effectually divided the nationalist and sectarian sentiments which during the next forty years O'Connell wove into one. Pitt understood the position: his lieutenants in Ireland, Cornwallis and Castlereagh, pleaded the necessity of emancipation. But the conscience of George III. was in the way, and Pitt, taking the only course open to an honest man, resigned. For four years he chafed at his exclusion from power, and at last, deliberately making jettison of his moral obligations to the Irish Roman Catholics, he returned under a pledge to drop the question. In the meantime Addington, who had the merit of straightforward adherence to certain definite views, formed a High Tory Ministry, and for the Irish Viceroyalty made an excellent choice in Lord Hardwicke. The position in Ireland was even more than commonly difficult. Pitt had passed the Union while encouraging the majority of the Irish people to look forward to a great immediate benefit as its sequel; to Addington fell the task of inaugurating the new administration on frankly unpopular lines. Nor was this the only handicap to hamper the new ministers, for they inherited from Cornwallis an enormous list of Union obligations. For the next two years or so Hardwicke had practically no patronage in his gift, no power of rewarding merit. Every post of emolument, from a bishopric to a tide-waitership, was marked down for the relatives of those Irish peers and members who had reconsidered their views during the stress of the Union debates. The Addington ministry has been so uniformly slighted by writers who know little of the period except Canning's amusing lampoons that it is important to recognise that Hardwicke's term of office in Dublin was markedly successful. He pursued a consistent policy of conciliation and held the balance fairly between rival factions. The administration's zeal for Church establishment went so far that we find the Lord-Lieutenant addressing the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin as "Sir", but on the other hand the grant to Maynooth was continued and the Roman Catholic chapels wrecked during the rebellion of 1798 were repaired at the public expense. "The present chief governor of Ireland", wrote Grattan in 1803, "has more advanced the strength of Government and its credit than could have been well conceived. From the manner in which this last [the Emmet] rebellion was put down, I incline to think that if Lord Hardwicke had been Viceroy and Lord Redesdale Chancellor in '98, the former rebellion would have never existed". Hardwicke remained in office under Pitt's second administration, and left Ireland when Grenville and "All the Talents" came into power in 1806. At that date there were still a few "Union engagements unredeemed", but the new coalition refused to recognise them.

The Hardwicke Papers have very recently been made accessible at the British Museum, and Mr. Macdonagh's study of them has enabled him to produce an entertaining book. He has been allowed to consult the Secret Irish Papers of 1803 at the Home Office—hitherto rigorously kept from the public eye. His volume would be of far greater value if it showed more evidence of that intimate knowledge of the period essential in any writer who would make full use of State papers. Mr. Macdonagh has evidently taken trouble to investigate personal allusions, but he does not appear to be very familiar with the authorities bearing on his subject other than the papers which

form the basis of his book. Much of the information in the Hardwicke papers was already to be found in the Cornwallis correspondence, the Castlereagh correspondence, and the Colchester papers. Mr. Macdonagh's idea of the proper way to elucidate a difficult period is to quote occasionally the works of Sir Jonah Barrington, whose uncorroborated testimony is generally worthless. Barrington's opposition to the Union did not prevent his becoming a place-hunter under the new system, and his denunciations of the prevalent corruption would have come better from a man who had not been removed from his judicial appointment for embezzlement.

By far the most interesting event in the Viceroyalty was, of course, Robert Emmet's rebellion. Even at the height of this crisis, however, the dominant note sounds in the background. Lord Kilwarden, the most humane of the judges, was piked to death in Dublin on the night of 23 July, 1803, before the eyes of his daughter, and with him perished his nephew, a young clergyman. On the 24th the Provost of Trinity writes to Lord Hardwicke to bespeak the vacant living for his son. Robert Emmet is, as Mr. Macdonagh truly observes, "the dearest saint in the calendar of Irish political martyrology". He was a dreamer who could never have made a successful leader of rebellion, but he is crowned with the halo of a tragic end. It would be hard to find another conspirator as single-minded. He gave his abilities, his private resources, his life, to the cause of Irish independence. His speech at his trial combined with eloquence a pathos and a dignity far above the range of the mere politician. He was responsible for none of the excesses which marred the rebellion: his plan was to lead 1,000 men to an attack upon Dublin Castle, and so completely were the authorities surprised that 1,000 men well armed might have taken it. Had the plan succeeded, Emmet expected Ireland to rise by spontaneous impulse. The experience of 1798 had shown him the danger of a widely organised conspiracy in a country full of informers, but he kept his secret so well that at the critical moment men and arms were not ready. The Kildare peasants had come to Dublin, but went away sulkily disappointed with the enthusiastic boy whose green uniform and brilliant oratory were a poor substitute for the revolutionary army they had hoped to find. The Wicklow men never came, and on the fatal evening Emmet found himself at the head of three hundred Dublin ragamuffins, whom he endeavoured to lead into the Wicklow hills to await reinforcement. But the mob mutinied, and when their commander-in-chief left them in disgust, began an aimless riot, killed an unarmed old man, and were dispersed by two companies of infantry. Had there been anything in the nature of an efficient police the rising would have been suppressed with even greater ease. And yet for a moment the danger was real. In 1803 there was a far better chance of a formidable French invasion than in 1798, the country was smarting under the brutalities of the Loyalist irregulars, and Robert Emmet was in close touch with Paris, where his elder brother Thomas was daily exhibiting his incapacity to Napoleon. Wickham, the Chief Secretary, received in June a warning which he thought unimportant and did not even report to the Viceroy. Had Robert Emmet not been too academic for the rank and file of the United Irishmen, he might have struck a very hard blow. But his mind was essentially that of the enthusiastic undergraduate, and he had as little power of utilising the forces of peasant discontent as a Moscow student of twenty-five would have to-day of leading a successful revolution. He might have escaped, but he lingered in Ireland that he might once more see Sarah Curran, to whom he was secretly betrothed. After his arrest he was deceived by a gaoler who promised to take her a letter but handed it to the authorities. It supplied the clue they needed. Hardwicke showed the most delicate consideration to the unhappy girl, whose tragic story is now well known to the world, but with Emmet the law took its course. When he gave the signal to the Dublin mob he had unwittingly ignited an infernal machine, and the technical though not the moral guilt of Kilwarden's death was upon his shoulders. And so he passed to an ignominious end. Treachery was near him to the last: his counsel,

MacNally, was a paid spy who revealed to the Government his client's confidences.

Emmet himself bore testimony to the mildness of the Hardwicke régime, but he believed in the stock revolutionary shibboleth that a benevolent despotism is the most dangerous to a nation. It is clear that under the surface three-fourths of Ireland were disaffected, but oddly enough in the general election of 1802 the members who had voted for the Union had no difficulty in keeping their seats. The responsible leaders of Irish opinion were quite out of sympathy with Emmet's movement. Grattan himself raised a troop of yeomanry, and O'Connell, then a promising young barrister, enlisted in a volunteer corps. They felt the criminality of an attempt to rekindle the smouldering ashes of 1798.

Much has recently been written about Emmet, and it is a pity that Mr. Macdonagh has not used his opportunities of showing the exact bearing of the State Papers upon certain theories which have won some acceptance among the uncritical. For instance Madden, the author of "Lives of the United Irishmen", invented the theory that the insurrection was due to agents provocateurs. Miss Guiney in her "Robert Emmet" has adopted the view, and Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet asserts that the late Sir Bernard Burke told him that the secret records proved the truth of the story. The papers now published completely demolish the fabrication. Again, Emmet's last speech as reported contains a defiance of the French (whom he would have accepted as allies but resisted as conquerors, had Napoleon tried to treat Ireland like Switzerland), which his brother believed to have been interpolated by Government. It is quite clear that the passage is genuine—as anybody except the orator's great-nephew might have decided long ago from its style. Mr. Macdonagh tells us that he "perused with the intensest interest" Emmet's own story of his scheme, which he seems to think unknown to the world until he read it at the Home Office, but which he has for some reason not printed. The whole document was published three years ago by Mr. O'Donoghue in his "Life of Robert Emmet".

#### AT THE TSAR'S COURT.

**"With the Russians in Peace and War: Recollections of a Military Attaché." By Colonel the Hon. F. A. Wellesley. London: Eveleigh Nash. 1905. 12s. 6d.**

COLONEL WELLESLEY (who is a son of the second Lord Cowley, British Ambassador at Paris during the 'fifties) was British Military Attaché at S. Petersburg from 1871 to 1878. He had every opportunity of studying the Russians in their own country during peace and in the Balkan provinces during the Russo-Turkish war, which began in 1877. His reminiscences are written in a pleasant and straightforward manner, and though utterly devoid of pretence are more informative than other more ambitious works on Russia, because there is no second-hand evidence here or hasty compilation of statistics from libraries or state papers. This volume contains the observations of a shrewd and well-bred man of the world, who lived at the centre of the situation, and was personally acquainted with the great actors in the drama which culminated in the fall of Plevna. Colonel Wellesley is evidently quite free from insular prejudice against foreigners; and indeed of the Russian people and the real reformers, who are very stupidly called Nihilists, he writes sympathetically. But the Russian governing classes, the Grand Dukes, the aristocrats, and the bureaucrats, he condemns with cool and judicial disapproval. Colonel Wellesley gives striking instances of the gross corruption, which is laughingly accepted by Grand Dukes and indeed all officials as a national custom: while no one who has ever read will forget his account of how the battleship "Peter the Great" was faked up with canvas turrets and sham armour and dummy guns for the inspection of the Tsar and the Duke of Edinburgh. "La Troisième Section" is only glanced at by Colonel Wellesley, who does not deal in sensational horrors. Colonel Wellesley's conclusion is

that Russian life is a strange compound of luxury and barbarism: and his entertaining and instructive book, which must interest everyone at the present time, illustrates the saying that if you scratch a Russian you will find a Tartar.

Of latent barbarism in the Russians (it is probably latent in every nation) the central episode of Colonel Wellesley's story is a proof. It was Colonel Wellesley's duty to write home to his Government confidential reports on the Russian army. When Russia declared war upon Turkey, Colonel Wellesley wrote home an unfavourable account of the Russian mobilisation. An English Cabinet Minister—it must we suppose have been Lord Derby—communicated the substance of the despatch to the French Ambassador in London, who passed it on to the French Ambassador at S. Petersburg, who told it to Baron Jomini, the Russian Minister of War! The indiscretion of the English Minister and the French Ambassador was gross and culpable, of course; and it was only natural that the Russians should be angry. Colonel Wellesley was cut by S. Petersburg society, and was told he had better not go to the club. Had the Russian Government asked to have him replaced by another officer we do not think the request would have been unreasonable. But as the Tsar invited Colonel Wellesley, though after some delay, to join the headquarters of the Grand Duke Nicholas, who was Commander-in-Chief of the army on the Danube, what followed was quite indefensible. "Colonel Wellesley", said the Grand Duke Nicholas, "I have been ordered by the Emperor, my brother, to receive you at my headquarters, an order which, whatever my personal feelings may be, I am obliged to obey. Permit me, however, to tell you that it has come to my knowledge that you have reported to your Government in a disparaging manner of the mobilisation of my army, a mobilisation at which you were not yourself present, and concerning the details of which you were therefore absolutely ignorant. As I said before, I must obey the Emperor's orders and receive you at my headquarters. I warn you, however, that I shall have you strictly watched, and that if you say or do or write anything of which I do not approve, I will turn you out of my army (je vous chasserai de mon armée)," and as he said these last words the Grand Duke snapped his fingers in the air. Colonel Wellesley had the presence of mind to decline the Grand Duke's proffered hand, to leave the room with a bow, and to take the next train to Bucharest, whence he reported the affair by cable and despatch (which he knew would be read by the Russians) to Lord Derby. The following morning two general officers in full uniform, one from the Emperor and the other from the Grand Duke, almost tumbled over one another into Colonel Wellesley's room at the hotel begging him to return to headquarters, and of course the thing was patched up. The next time the Grand Duke saw Colonel Wellesley he said, "This is a nice scrape you have got me into with the Emperor, the Queen, and your Government. Surely it was rather hard on me that you should have taken so seriously words that were uttered with perhaps not sufficient consideration . . . Anyhow I am sorry for what took place. Will you shake hands and think no more about it?" Is not this episode very characteristic of the Russians?

Colonel Wellesley gives a vivid and pathetic picture of the siege and fall of Plevna, and of the surrender of his sword to the Tsar by the wounded Osman. These pages will cure any one of the delusion that the Transvaal war was conducted by "methods of barbarism". Colonel Wellesley tells a capital story of the Congress at Berlin, which he got from Count Schouvaloff. Lord Beaconsfield and Prince Gortchakoff had been discussing in private the crucial question of the frontier of East Roumelia, and each statesman was armed with a secret map, showing, from opposite points of view, the frontier which would be demanded, and the frontier which would be accepted. After one of these discussions Beaconsfield carried off Gortchakoff's secret map by mistake, and the Russian Chancellor unconsciously pocketed the English secret map! The result was a very funny scene at the Congress, which required all Bismarck's tact to smooth over. We are afraid however that Schouvaloff invented this story: it is too good



to be true. Colonel Wellesley concludes with a sober discussion of the Russian menace to India, and we are inclined to agree with what we take to be his proposition, namely, that the danger is not so much that the Russians would take India, but that they would force Great Britain to keep a very large army there.

## THE MENTAL LIFE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

"A History of European Thought in the Nineteenth Century." By John Theodor Merz. Vol. II. London: Blackwood. 15s. net.

WITH the completion of this volume Dr. Merz has brought to a close the first part of his great task and has given us a complete history of the development of scientific thought during the nineteenth century. And as this is the epoch which saw in chemistry the advent of the atomic hypothesis and the creation of the science of organic chemistry, which in physics witnessed on one hand the growth of the theory of thermodynamics and on the other the discovery of all the marvels of electricity, which again saw the whole domain of biology revolutionised by the work of Darwin, we cannot but believe that no more pregnant a period is likely to occur again in the history of science.

In this fact lies much of the importance of Dr. Merz' work; in a striking passage in the introduction to his earlier volume (published in 1896, reprinted 1904) he outlines his ambition to record the inner life of the nineteenth century. "It is the object of these volumes to fix, if possible, this possession; to rescue from oblivion that which appears to me our secret property; in the last and dying hour of a remarkable age to throw the light upon the fading outlines of its mental life; to try and trace them, and with the aid of all possible information, gained from the written testimonies or the records of others, to work them into a coherent picture, which may give to those who follow some idea of the peculiar manner in which our age looked upon the world and life, how it intellectualised and spiritualised them."

Such a record, as Dr. Merz truly indicates, can only be drawn up by one who has lived among the ebb and flow of new-born opinion, who has been touched by the fire of controversies and caught at first or second hand something of the feeling of the protagonists in the discussions that attended each fresh advance. Take any controversy now fifty years old, it is possible to recover the written words of each party and by carefully dating them to trace the progress of opinion to the position we now hold, but it is almost hopeless to try to realise how the conflicting schools appeared to one another, how it struck a contemporary, what indeed the coil was all about, so much has the point of view which has finally prevailed become a part of our general mental equipment. How difficult it is for example even now to obtain any real conception of the pre-Darwinian attitude of mind, to put ourselves in the position of Owen or of Wilberforce with regard to the "Origin of Species". Yet there are many still living to report to us the passions that then stirred the scientific world; how much greater then will be the difficulty a generation hence to frame a conception of the cross currents of opinion in the vital years 1859-1870.

It is then Dr. Merz' object to write a history of the thought of the nineteenth century from the point of view of one who shared in the progress and watched many of the changes and movements he records. It is not his function to measure the extent of the achievement nor to anticipate the effects of this or that conception; his attempt is to set out the inner life of his contemporaries and the secret springs of their judgments and opinions. To him thought "denotes the whole of the inner or hidden life and activity of a period or a nation". Thought also is the one thing that is real to us. "The pendulum which swings backwards and forwards in endless monotony, the planet which moves round the sun in unceasing repetition, the atom of matter which vibrates in the same path, have for us no interest beyond the

mathematical formulæ which govern their motions, and which permit us to reproduce—i.e. to think them."

Dr. Merz' scheme involves the division of his subject into three great sections; the first, which is now completed with the publication of this volume, deals with the history of scientific thought, science being taken as defined by its method of procedure, which is exact, objective, and capable of universal verification. The second section is to deal with the history of philosophic thought, philosophy being defined as speculation carried out according to method and aiming at systematic unity. Finally we are promised the history of the religious thought of the century, under which comprehensive heading is to be included all the unmethodical thought, the intuitions and aspirations which find their expression as much in the literature and art of the age as in its avowedly religious movements.

In the present volume Dr. Merz continues the method he had before adopted of enumerating and analysing "the general views under the guidance of which scientific work has progressed in the course of the century". Thus the first chapter, on the kinetic or mechanical view of nature, traces the development of the whole group of physical theories which explain phenomena on a basis of the motion of some medium. There we read of the growth of the undulating theory of light, its later connexion with the theory of electricity, and the absorption of both in a more general theory of ether motions, which aims at ultimately including both matter and gravitation in its scope, a mode of thought which has already seen some staggering developments in these early years of the twentieth century. Again under the heading of "the genetic view of nature" we get an outline of the growth of the doctrine of development, of the attempt to reduce to law the many evidences we possess of continuous change in the organic world. Lamarck, Humboldt, Van Baer were the forerunners, then came Darwin and Wallace, afterwards we read of Huxley, Spencer, and Haeckel. Perhaps the most novel chapter is that devoted to "the statistical view of nature", by which Dr. Merz means the method of treating the changes taking place among living things by grouping them into classes and discussing the results so obtained according to the law of probabilities. While the method has its application in physics it has found its most fertile field in treatment of the problems of heredity, as for example in the work of Galton. When Dr. Merz comes to re-edit this chapter he will be able to parallel the extraordinary story of Mohr's forgotten memoir on the nature of heat by the equally strange story of the oblivion which for thirty years overtook Mendel's paper on heredity, where the statistical method is used with such striking results, results that are to-day being subjected to abundant verification by the labours of De Vries, Correns, Tschermak, Bateson and his pupils. Throughout the whole book it is clear that Dr. Merz' strength and personal sympathies lie with mathematics and with the application of mathematics to physics and other departments of science, hence the last chapter of the second volume on the development of mathematical thought is perhaps the most novel and suggestive achievement of the book, an outline which may be read with interest by the layman who has no hope of ever entering into the charmed regions of transcendental mathematics.

While we cannot pretend that Dr. Merz' book is easy reading, for the demand on the reader may be gauged by its scope and by the abstruse nature of the conceptions with which it is occupied, yet the style is clear and lucid, the human element is never lacking, and the reader may catch something of Dr. Merz' own fervour of interest and a little of the glow of spirit with which each discovery was received. Errors in detail are inevitable, no man can range with security over the whole field of scientific thought, here and there some errors in perspective, some stress in the wrong place must come, but they in no wise interfere with the general value of the book nor detract from the singular impression of dignified order and insight it conveys. Dr. Merz' book completes for the nineteenth century the design sketched by Whewell in his "History of the Inductive Sciences", and again it may be said to bring down to a later period, adding the history and throwing it all into a general philosophic framework, the material of that most suggestive little

book Jevons' "Principles of Science". We look forward with something more than interest to the appearance of the second part, when Dr. Merz will similarly review the philosophic thought of the age and show how the scientific thought, of which he has already given us an account, has affected and been incorporated into the wider speculations on the nature of being and the problem of existence.

#### ORCHID HUNTING IN AMERICA.

"Bog-trotting for Orchids." By Grace Greylock Niles. New York and London: Putnam. 1905. 12s. 6d. net.

IN its own fashion this is a delightful book. Miss Niles, an ardent collector and botanist, records in its pages her adventures on many a ramble in the Hoosac Valley, which lies in the Taconic Mountains that are situated in Vermont and Berkshire County, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

For the most part orchids were her spoil, but when she came across other floral treasures she did not turn away from them. Thus she describes the scarce Walking Leaf (*Camptosorus rhizophyllus*), a strange little fern that throws out a long and narrow runner from the end of which spring radicles. Then another runner is projected, and thus it progresses from spot to spot as ivy. This fern will only thrive upon limestone rocks. Also she tells us of the crimson-veined pitcher plants, or Side-saddle flowers (*Sarracenia purpurea*). These strange plants are carnivorous and live upon flies and moths in a way horribly suggestive of the habits of humanity. Indeed, they can even digest snails, for Miss Niles found no less than two dozen of these entrapped in the leaves of one of them.

Of the seventy-one species of Orchidaceæ that are found in the North Atlantic region, about forty-two flourish in the Hoosac Valley. All of these have interest and many are of great beauty, especially, amongst others that might be named, the large yellow Moccasin-flower (*Cypripedium hirsutum*), the Showy Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium reginæ*), the pink Moccasin-flower (*Cypripedium acaule*) and the fragrant white Moccasin-flower (*Cypripedium montanum*). It is sad to learn from Miss Niles' pages that even in these secluded regions many lovely orchids are being ruthlessly exterminated. Indeed she says that in localities where a few years ago she found them in abundance, hardly a trace of their kind now remains. They are recklessly dug up by visitors; also the roots of some of them have unfortunately a reputation for healing qualities and are used in infusions, tinctures and ointments, a custom that, unless it is checked, must end in their extinction.

The description given in this book of the haunts where most of these orchids are found will explain to many an English gardener the reason of his failure to establish the hardy and beautiful specimens of North Atlantic *Cypripediums* which are imported freely into this country. At home they grow in dense, shaded places, where springs well up through sphagnum moss that has gathered in the course of years over the rotting trunks of fallen forest trees, which once stood around the stagnant marshland pools. Few of us have such sites at command and therefore our hardy, terrestrial orchids fail. It is a pity, since in their way they are quite as beautiful as those which we grow under glass, whose natural conditions we are able to reproduce more closely by the aid of well-managed hot-water pipes, peat and added moisture. Although the somewhat limited nature of its subject naturally leads to repetition, Miss Niles' book is as well written as it is learned. As an example of her style we will quote from it one paragraph, her last:—

"It is in the deepest and most secluded swamps that the shy orchid blooms, far beyond the realm of lawn or garden. Few indeed realise what a world of beauty and order lies sleeping unsought and unseen in the mossy recesses of our mountains—a wonderland of discovery to any one who persistently, though reverently, seeks to lure from Nature the secret of her deep retreats."

It should be added that the numerous illustrations are excellent, especially those of orchids reproduced in

colour, some of which seem to us extraordinarily good. This work is one which may be cordially recommended to all lovers of Nature and of flowers.

#### NOVELS.

"The Apple of Eden." By E. Temple Thurston. London: Chapman and Hall. 1905. 6s.

Mr. Thurston's novel is neither witty, wise, nor interesting. It deals with an unpleasant subject in an unpleasant manner. The story tells of the awakening of the sexual instinct in a young priest who has taken the vow at a period before he was conscious of the full meaning of what he was doing. The absolute morbid absorption of the man's mind in what becomes the one and only subject to him may be true, but is certainly not edifying except from the standpoint of the blatant Protestant who would view with delight the belittling of every Roman Catholic institution. The style in which the story is told is clumsy in the extreme. There is a great deal of unnecessary verbosity and repetition, and the attention of the reader is permitted to wander from the main theme on several important occasions. The construction of the sentences is slipshod, as witness the following:—"She was a woman, and in her eyes that word was to be seen, written with all the little differences from the other sex, all the subtle allurements and all the fascinations which that word in its truest sense can hold for the truest instinct of a man." It is easy, perhaps, to see what the writer is driving at, but it is not easy to conceive a more awkward mode of expressing a simple idea. In humour Mr. Thurston is absolutely lacking. He is sometimes facetious, but the only humorous passages in his book are quite unintentional. He is absolutely serious for instance in the following passage, when the renegade priest is confessing his sin:—

"You—you only kissed her?" . . .

"That is all. Glory be to God wasn't it enough?"

"Father Conelly looked up into the curate's eyes. 'Faith, it's well you found it so', he said."

And that is the worst of the whole book. When the author would have us sympathise with, or at least realise the point of view of, his hero, he only succeeds in making him ridiculous. It is impossible to conceive anyone but a maniac acting as did Father Michael. It is impossible to conceive any girl, even though she be artfully named as in the story "Miss Lawless", desiring for an instant to kiss so tiresome a prig with his constant reference to the "works of philosophy" he has read, but who shows throughout a spirit so unphilosophic. The whole thing in fact bristles with impossibilities from start to finish. It is a conception of the Roman Catholic priesthood written by a man whose knowledge of the whole system of which he writes is evidently quite imperfect—for the book is full of trivial inaccuracies such as where he alludes to a bishop sitting on a "faldstool"—and who is obviously incapable of entering for an instant into the real spirit of the institution with which he deals. The celibacy of the clergy may or may not be a mistake—we write from a standpoint quite independent—but it would be well for those who take upon themselves, either in tract or in fiction, violently to attack an article of faith of a large portion of Christendom to arm themselves with some measure of authority lest they end by merely covering themselves with ridicule.

"Cut Laurels." By M. Hamilton. London: Heinemann. 1905. 6s.

"Cut Laurels" is essentially a woman's book (and a very good one) for women, with a heroine that could only be drawn by a woman—finely, and sensitively; with full appreciation of the beauty of goodness, and of the dignity of self-sacrifice. Perhaps "Katherine" is sometimes irritatingly self-denying, and almost obtuse in her humility, but she has the wonderful high spirits which often distinguish a woman predestined to suffering, she has a pleasant gift of humour, and excellent good sense, combined with a genuine nobility



of character. The author may be congratulated on an admirable creation. All the feminine characters, the consumptive, foolish Lady Hewland, the pretty shallow Phyllis, and the humble pathetic native wife Umbusa are recognisable types. The male characters are less intelligible—"Katherine's" husband is shadowy and unsatisfactory, even the terrible eighteen years' imprisonment after Omdurman is hardly enough to account for his apathy and callous stupidity. The two children of his native wife are delightful, the fat, obstinate, ill-fated little Suleiman, true child of an Egyptian mother, and the precocious, acute Abdullah, devoted to his English father, and ambitious to play "ker-ricket". There are occasional picturesque passages of description, of Egyptian scenery, but the author's excellence lies in the description of ordinary feminine emotions and subtleties of behaviour—she is fortunately not ambitious of making great effects, or of attacking weighty problems, and succeeds admirably within her limitations. Her style is easy and unaffected, intelligent and refined.

**"The Bell in the Fog: and Other Stories."** By Gertrude Atherton. London: Macmillan. 1905. 6s.

This collection of short stories exhibits the author in a variety of moods. They are not all of the same level of excellence but every story is marked by some distinction of treatment. Mrs. Atherton possesses in a remarkable degree aptitude in selection—that most necessary and so rare qualification of the short-story writer. She knows how to gain her effects by vigorous exclusion from her story of all the things that do not matter. Every touch tells. There is a certain morbidity of sentiment about most of the stories and they possess the power of haunting the memory. Among the most striking are "The Greatest Good of the Greatest Number" and "The Tragedy of a Snob".

**"The Torch-Bearers."** By Mary Bradford Whiting. London: Dent. 1905. 4s. 6d.

The author of "The Torch-Bearers" seems to share the late Seton-Merriman's weakness for a political imbroglia, for mysterious doings, and secret meetings; there is the same absurd effect of the ordinary puppet of the novelist mouthing commonplace tirades against the enemies of liberty; the same vague generalities of political doctrine; the same futilities of conspiracy. Doubtless in real life, conspirators are equally ineffective and naïve, and would-be destructive secret machinery, and agencies, equally clumsy and stupid; but the absurdities and commonplaceness might, by an artist, be set on the stage, and lifted with their grim contexts of treachery and violence into something resembling a grotesque tragedy, pathetic and ridiculous at the same time. Mrs. Whiting's hero follows the safe political path of the "juste milieu", he avoids alike the pitfall of anarchism on the one hand, and clericalism on the other. He has sound Protestant views on the temporal power of the Pope, and is convinced that the destinies of Italy lie safely in the hands of the rulers of the House of Savoy. There is evidence in this story of intelligent study of Italian history, and of existing conditions in Italy political and social; but no display of remarkable political insight, of unusual erudition, of profound thought or of brilliant fervid eloquence. The characterisation is in the main good, the male characters being unusually well-defined and convincing. The story is moderately interesting, and well written, and quite readable, but that is all that can be said of a somewhat over-ambitious effort.

**"The Fate of Felix."** By Mrs. Coulson Kernahan. London: Long. 1905. 6s.

"The Fate of Felix" is a stupid story of the cheap, melodramatic order—a lunatic wife, driven mad by hypnotism; an apparently bigamous marriage; a false funeral; two escaped convicts; a murder which has no connexion with the rest of the plot; a mawkish love story; a little sentimental religion, such are the chief ingredients. The plot is absurd, the writing commonplace, the humour dismal, and the reflections trite. The frequent references to the "Veddass", "Confucianism", "the theories of Leucippus" and the use of medical

phraseology, are evidently intended to impress the reader with the author's learning, which we suspect to be scarcely even superficial.

#### NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

**"Hierurgia Anglicana." Part III. Revised and Enlarged by Vernon Staley. London: The De La More Press. 1904. 7s. 6d. net.**

Barely a quarter of the material in this volume was in the old Camden Society's "Hierurgia" of 1848, and the editor might have added very many more extracts, especially on Prayer for the Dead, had space permitted. The three parts constitute a valuable mass of information upon post-Reformation usages. Exactly the same things were said of the "historic High-church party", as regards priestcraft and Romanising, as are charged against their successors to-day. The older Puritans, however, objected rather to ceremonialism and sacramentalism than to "sacerdotal pretensions" and ecclesiastical censures. Part of the present volume consists of extracts relating to a now almost obsolete penitential discipline. In respect of this the little finger of Calvin was thicker than the loins of Catholicism. Nor did his followers object to "the Scripture bids us fast", but only to "the Church says now". The spirit of our own age dislikes authority and ecclesiasticism rather than externals. Ridley's and Latimer's views on the power of the Keys would seem to some of our present bishops and moderates quite reactionary, and the nonconformist Reynolds himself "was so well satisfied in the power and nature of sacerdotal absolution that he did earnestly desire it at the time of his death", in 1607, kissing the hand of his confessor. In Ireland a shivering bell was tolled on Saturday afternoons, temp. Charles I. As late as Georgian times Fiddes writes:—"It is a groundless insinuation, and not the less so for being designed as a popular one, that the doctrine concerning sacerdotal absolution subjects the laity to the clergy; it only subjects them to the institution of God." And that excellent specimen of the modern Whig bishop, Vowler Short, is quoted as condemning the swing of the pendulum which most unscripturally makes an unshriven generation the judge, in old Bishop Hall's phrase, each man of his own leprosy. The restrictions on times for contracting matrimony, enforced in Shakespeare's day and later—"marriage comes in", "marriage goes out", as the almanacks had it—now only extend customarily to Lent. On the other hand the old Church Sunday was observed with a broad and indulgent humanity, ill replaced by modern dullness diversified by Hurlingham, Maidenhead and Hendon. "There were no rates for the poor in my grandfather's days", says Aubrey. "The church-ale of Whitsuntide did the business. In every parish is (or was) a church-house, to which belonged spits, crocks, &c., utensils for dressing provision. There the housekeepers [hospitable folk] met and were merry, and gave their charity. The young people were there too, and had dancing, bowling, shooting at butts, &c., the ancients sitting gravely by and looking on. All things were civil and without scandal". Of course they had all been to church. A useful section of Provost Staley's collection deals with hours of service. A revival of the old nine o'clock for the high celebration would solve many difficulties, Mattins being said at "the beginning of this day". We are told in Bishop Sumner's Life that King George IV. was "in the habit of receiving the Holy Communion alone, and fasting, at ten o'clock". There is a useful section on the Kalendar, and the Provost includes in this volume a number of modern Declarations on various subjects as well as the "Responsio" of the English Episcopate to their "venerable brother" Leo XIII.'s Apostolic Letter on Anglican ordinations. The illustrations are, as before, very serviceable, but Plate I, strangely enough, deest. This "Library of Liturgiology and Ecclesiology for English Readers", edited by the Provost of Inverness, is admirably printed and remarkably cheap.

**"Crockford's Clerical Directory 1905." London: Horace Cox. 1905. 20s.**

The portentous preface is no more. The editor has returned to the primitive practice of three or four pages. Judging by the very liberal spacing and the poor matter included, the editor would have done well to have curtailed still further. In fact the preface has done its work and might now be discontinued altogether. It served as a means of communication between the editor and the clergy when the book was less known and the plans on which it is arranged less understood. Now everybody knows "Crockford", and everyone but the professional grumbler is content with it. This volume is well up to date. The creation of the See of Birmingham is recognised and the translation of Dr. Gore is recorded though it was only gazetted on 20 January. Errors seem to be fewer even than usual. The plan of inserting each man's school has not been continued. It was tried for two years as an experiment, but streams of letters received by the editor showed a decided preponderance of opinion against it. We much regret that it

has not been found possible to print the Index of Parishes in the same way as the rest of the book. It is not desirable to have to turn so heavy a volume about. But full information and accuracy are necessary beyond any convenience of form. We have both of these to a degree which makes "Crockford" a remarkable book.

"Bonnie Scotland." Painted by Sutton Palmer. Described by A. R. Hope Moncrieff. London: Black. 1904. 7s. 6d.

"Scottish Life and Character." Painted by H. J. Dobson. Described by William Sanderson. London: Black. 1904. 7s. 6d.

"Edinburgh." Painted by John Fulleylove. Described by Rosaline Masson. London: Black. 1904. 7s. 6d.

It is evident that the chief aim of Messrs. Black has been to make the illustrations of scenery and interiors the most prominent features of these books. The intention above all is that the pictures should be handsome and striking and in profusion so that they may appeal to the man-in-the-street. They at any rate represent scenes beautiful in themselves, or interesting from historical associations, or touching and pathetic as pictures of the homes and persons of the Scottish people of the lowly classes. Taking the whole group together, we should say that they present a view of Scotland which will please all Scottish people.

They are essentially popular books, aiming at broad effects in illustration and writing. They are handsome in, shall we say, bourgeois or ordinary prosperous citizen fashion, and evidently they have been produced at very considerable expense and trouble, and from the popular point of view every care has been taken to make the books attractive. Dealing with Edinburgh Miss Masson has perhaps had the subject which admits best of literary treatment; and we do not know that a better account has ever been given for "tourist" purposes of a great city of which there remains little new to say but of which the old is ever attractive. There is much vigour and robustness in the writing of "Bonnie Scotland" and there may be a resemblance in its crudity in some respects to its plates, which have too much monotony of aggressive browns and reds in them, and appear most of them to have been taken in late autumn; but it serves its purpose.

"Scottish Life and Character" tends too much to the ultra-domestic sentimental side, especially in its pictures; though these are reproductions of a series of well-known paintings by an artist who has done for the cottagers what "Old Mortality" did for the tombstones of the Covenanters. It would not be strange if we had read so much about Scottish virtues and devotion, of its domesticity, of its ministers and elders and the rest, as to grow heartily tired of them, one and all.

"Literary Landmarks of the Scottish Universities." By Lawrence Hutton. London: Putnam. 1904. 5s. net.

In a small book of two hundred pages, the last of a series of such Literary Landmarks by Mr. Hutton who died while it was being printed, a very pleasant and amusing set of notes antiquarian and biographical is put together about Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and St. Andrews Universities. All is on a very small scale, but this makes it more readable as there is no congestion of stodgy details. There is no particular reason for the title Landmarks. For instance Charles Darwin studied at Edinburgh but his residence there had nothing of the "landmark" nature about it. The book has a number of photographs of the old and the new buildings and old students will find interest in noticing the changes that have taken place since their time. The ancient buildings are curious specimens of what were considered good enough in Scotland as universities in olden days.

We have received from Mr. Edward Stanford a map showing the different districts under the Poor-law administration in the County of London. It contains also a list of the various institutions under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the Poor-law schools, and the district sick and lunatic asylums. The map is in colours; the districts are well defined and easy of reference. It is a very useful production and its published price is half a guinea net.

### THE MARCH REVIEWS.

Modern democracy has been a surprise to Mr. John Morley as to many other Radicals who believed that it was only necessary to broaden the franchise in order to ensure a permanent Radical majority. In the new number of the "Nineteenth Century", Mr. Morley explains how democracy in Great Britain has been coincident with reaction, and he points out how "Little England" has done great things under a monarch or aristocracy or both. He traces the origin of the Imperialism of the last fifteen or twenty years to the rejection of the Home Rule Bill of 1886, but that is surely much too restricted a view. The Imperialism which has been such a disappointment to Mr. Morley and his friends, which they have shown themselves as

utterly unable to understand as to foresee, had its birth with Lord Beaconsfield and the rejection of the *laissez-faire* policy of the middle of last century. If all the signs point to the possibility that the long reign of an Imperialist Government is nearing its end, who is to form the new ministry and what will be its policy? For an answer to that question we must turn to the "Fortnightly Review", in whose pages an anonymous writer discusses the probable construction and aims of a Radical Government. He seems to think that if Lord Rosebery holds aloof the next Prime Minister will be neither Lord Spencer nor Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, but Mr. Asquith. The Ministry is to include Sir Charles Dilke, who has suffered long enough from "the rancorous bitterness" of Mr. Stead, Mr. Lloyd George, who must be given "something more than an under-secretaryship", possibly Mr. John Burns, Mr. John Ellis, Dr. Macnamara, and Mr. Perks. "Of the future of Mr. Winston Churchill it is difficult to speak." As to policy the Liberal leaders are warned that they must take care, if they would not prepare for their followers some further disappointments. They must not for instance imagine that they are going to find it a simple matter to reverse the measures passed by Mr. Balfour's Government. If they succeed in carrying their views regarding education, agricultural rating, and licensing through the Commons they will have the House of Lords to face, and the writer thinks the House of Lords, which has been in substantial agreement with the majority of the electors for the last twenty years, "will contend that a victory for free trade does not mean that the country is in favour of great legislative changes, or that it wishes completely to reverse some of the legislation of the present Parliament". It is of no small interest to note that just as Mr. Morley traces Imperialism to 1886 so the "Fortnightly" writer traces the power of the House of Lords to the same year. The Radicals have not yet paid the full price of Mr. Gladstone's surrender to the Parnellites. In the "National Review" the position of the

(Continued on page 320.)

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Government is discussed by the Editor in his always readable and incisive notes of the month. Mr. Maxse is strong in his support of Mr. Chamberlain and all that affects the Union. He claims credit for having warned the Unionist party against the Dudley-Wyndham-MacDonnell peril in Ireland, and is of opinion that "if the Government had little to fear from the Opposition, they had everything to fear from themselves". Mr. F. St. John Borrow devotes an article to what he calls "the Mysterious Case of Sir Antony MacDonnell". "Blackwood" is caustic at the expense of the aspirants to office in the Liberal ranks: "They are all leaders now. So noble is the spirit which animates them, that the meanest of all would scorn to yield allegiance to another. Neither Mr. Lloyd George nor Mr. Winston Churchill will be content with anything less than the Premiership, while that Jack Cade of aestheticism, Mr. John Burns, must surely be rewarded with a high office. And then there are the Dilkes and the McKennas, the Loughs and the Macnamaras, eager to claim their payment. And, alas! the Cabinet cannot include a whole party."

Russia's social and political condition is ably explained by Mr. Alexander Kinloch in the "Fortnightly", and by Dr. Dillon in long articles in the "Nineteenth Century" and the "Contemporary". Mr. Kinloch shows how the aggressive influence of "the all-absorbing bureaucracy" has come between Tsar and people, till a state of discontent has been created unprecedented in Russian history. "Should the much prognosticated yet for all that unlikely revolution ever take place in Russia, it will not be an attempt to pull down the ancient tower of autocracy but a struggle to disarm the hated and despised bureaucracy". What Russia needs, in Mr. Kinloch's view, is a strong ruler like William II. who broke with Bismarck rather than allow himself to be a tool in the hands of the bureaucrats. Dr. Dillon always writes at great length. In the "Nineteenth Century" he describes the breakdown of Russian finances. "It is clear," he says, "that with the enormous expenses of the war, and the still greater outlay which will follow the war, the trade balance, if it is to continue favourable in future, must show a much greater excess of exports over imports than heretofore. In that case the last state of the Russian peasant would be much worse than the first; and at present it is bad enough". If Dr. Dillon's way of putting the matter is rather Irish—if that is Russia is to be saved only by getting into worse difficulties—the explanation is that he takes the orthodox free-trade view of imports and exports. He draws a pitiable picture both in the "Nineteenth" and the "Contemporary" of the brutalisation and demoralisation of the Russian people. In the "Contemporary" he is also a little Irish when he tells us why it is the Russian people will not support the Autocracy in seeking to regain in Manchuria the credit it has lost at home. "Why should we perish by myriads in Manchuria in order that our rulers may go on treading us under foot in Moscow, Petersburg, Kieff, Odessa?" Unlike Mr. Kinloch, Dr. Dillon traces all Russia's woes to the Autocracy, but we would infinitely prefer to trust Mr. Kinloch. Mr. L. Villari in the "Monthly Review", after some months in Russia, has come to the conclusion that the war has brought about a remarkable change of public feeling regarding the necessity of internal reform. "The bureaucracy is clearly getting nervous and will in all probability be frightened into making concessions." Since February 1904 the revolutionary propaganda has become astonishingly active. "The amount of revolutionary literature circulating throughout Russia is so enormous that the police are unable to cope with it. Manifestoes and proclamations are printed on fly-leaves similar to those of the war telegrams, and distributed at dusk to the workmen as they come out of the factories. The lower orders never had any real interest in the war, nor any enthusiasm for it. At first they merely ignored it; but the sacrifices which it is imposing on them, and the total absence of success, make them more willing to listen to the revolutionary agitators and socialistic propagandists." Mr. Villari says a thorough overhauling of the internal administration of Russia resulting in some form of national representation, even though it be on a very narrow basis, is inevitable. In the "Independent Review" Mr. K. Tar tells the story of the labour movement in Russia, and sets forth the programme of the Social Democratic Labour Party.

Among the general articles in the reviews two or three stand out from the rest. The "Monthly" has a remarkable and fantastic essay by Maxim Gorki on Man. In the hours of spiritual weakness he says he sees the majestic image of Man slowly advancing, forwards and higher. "Man! I see his haughty brow and fearless piercing eyes; in them the light of dauntless mighty Thought, Thought that conceived the wondrous harmony of all the worlds, that mighty force which when overpowered by weariness—creates gods; when valiant casts them down." Another article in the "Monthly" which claims attention is Stratiotes' on the military deadlock resulting from several years' tinkering with the army. In "Blackwood's" there is a clever bit of satire by Mercator Anglicanus entitled "A Plea for the Abolition of all Learning". The writer says that "for many years a gross injustice has been done to the flower of our youth by the Universities, which for the base purposes of pedantry and profit

have encouraged the study of such antiquated subjects as Greek, Latin, and mathematics". He is not, however, prepared to abolish only classic subjects, but modern as well: geography, French and German, engineering. "The Universities are doomed beyond hope or help; and I, for one, am glad of it. They are useless, as I have proved, and, thank God! they are bankrupt". The Colleges he suggests will, with a little reconstruction, make excellent warehouses. In the "National Review" M. Emile Combes, the late French Premier, narrates for the benefit of its readers, as he puts it, "the two principal events of my Ministry—the suppression of about 500 teaching preaching and commercial orders and the vindication of the religious rights of the state". In the "Fortnightly" Mr. William Archer gives us an idea of Ibsen as seen in his letters, Ibsen, "notably free from the characteristic foibles of the literary man", "the exasperated satirist, not the fretful author". "No one could ever guess from these letters that their writer had been, for ten years or so, the most furiously assailed and reprobated of European authors. He resolutely acted up to his own advice to Brandes: 'Be dignified!' It was, indeed, one of the contradictions of his nature, that while intellectually an ultra-radical he was temperamentally an aristocrat. His ideal was a democracy of aristocrats; and his moods of pessimism were those in which he feared that this must for ever remain a contradiction in terms."

"Revue des Deux Mondes." 1 Mars. 3/4.

Among several papers deserving notice perhaps the most attractive is that by M. Victor Giraud on "The Work of Sainte-Beuve". He discusses the history of literary criticism in France and shows how completely the life-work of this great critic has established the whole position of criticism on a new footing. From being regarded as the occupation of those who had not sufficient originality to become poets or romance writers, criticism has taken its place as the equal of any other class of literature, until to-day we find the leading writers in France commencing as critics or alternating a book of criticisms with a romance. This is true of MM. Bourget, de Vogüé, Rod, Anatole France and others. The work of criticism as it was understood by Sainte-Beuve and elaborated in the marvellous series of the "Lundis" and "Nouveaux Lundis" cannot be overrated. "It partakes at the same time of the history of criticism, of the history of imaginative literature and of the history of ideas. Sainte-Beuve's life-work was to prove by his example that criticism is not necessarily an inferior kind of literature, but that everything depends upon the person who applies it and that if he is, as well as a critic, an artist a moralist or a philosopher, criticism is by the same stroke constituted the equal in dignity of art and of philosophy." This is both well and truly said.

For this Week's Books see page 322.

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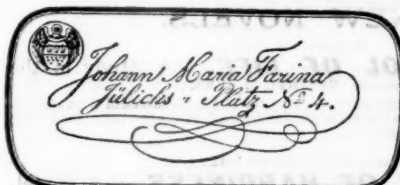
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Mill .. .. .	12,763'130	0'400	11,114'971	0'284		
Tailings .. .. .	3,475'850	0'415	2,733'812	0'030		
Slimes .. .. .	1,744'730	1'264	1,441'160	1'062		
Own Concentrates ..	894'700	0'630	883'519	0'651		
Total from own Ore ..	18,848'460	13'747	16,192'862	11'037		
Purchased Concentrates	1,588'300		1,544'975			
	20,436'760		17,737'837			

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Mining Account (including Development) ..	16,903	3	11	0	13 11'223
Milling Account .. .. .	4,419	1	5	0	3 3'092
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General Expenses (including Maintenance) ..	1,871	4	1	0	0 11'245
Profit on Working .. .. .	29,087	8	5	0	21 5'315
	39,897	1	9	0	26 11'634
	63,384	20	2	0	50 4'949
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Gold Accounts—					
From Mill .. .. .	46,930	16	7	14	7'164
From Tailings .. .. .	11,073	7	7	0	8 7'260
From Slimes .. .. .	6,032	17	6	0	4 3'545
From own Concentrates .. .. .	3,727	3	7	0	2 3'974
	63,384	20	2	2	10 4'949

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March, 1895	44,967	17	6
March, 1897	53,444	15	5
March, 1898	57,639	9	6
March, 1899	67,187	1	6
March, 1900	74,992	15	1
March, 1901	143,393	4	0
March, 1902	244,850	16	1
March, 1903	304,561	19	5
March, 1904	226,168	8	7

It will be noticed that the profits for the period ending March, 1904, showed a decrease on the previous two years, which years were, however, benefited by the abnormal demand created by the presence of the Army of Occupation. Although the number of troops in South Africa has since been considerably reduced, it is gratifying to be able to state that the Trade is showing a steady increase.

The net assets of the Company as at March 31st, 1904, amounted to £2,213,947 2s. 6d. In this sum is included the amount standing to the credit of Reserve Account, £612,702 15s. 6d.

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DATE.		Shares Issued.	Shares Allotted
1895	Signatory Shares .. .. .	7	7
1895	.. .. .	75,000	75,000
1895	.. .. .	5,100	5,100
1895	.. .. .	125,000	125,000
1898	.. .. .	10,000	8,381
1899	.. .. .	61,348	59,101
1900	.. .. .	40,000	40,000
1901	.. .. .	37,411	37,411
1902	.. .. .	250,000	250,000
1903	.. .. .	250,000	200,000
		950,000	

## PREFERENCE SHARES.

April, 1895, Allotted as fully paid as part purchase price of assets and Goodwill as above .. .. . 100,000  
 The Balance of existing Preference Shares has been issued and subscribed for as follows, and paid in full—

DATE		
1900	.. .. .	200,000
1901	.. .. .	200,000
		500,000

An Agreement, dated the 1st day of February, 1905, was entered into between the Company and John S. Sheldrick on behalf of the Preference Shareholders, authorising the present increase of the Preference Share Capital, which was ratified in writing by the holders of over two-thirds of the then existing Preference Shares.

The whole of the Shares of this issue have been underwritten for a Commission of 3 per cent., and a Contract dated the 9th day of March, 1905, has been entered into for the above purpose with Messrs. Basil Montgomery, FitzGerald & Co. The Directors are not aware of any other contracts which may be deemed material to be disclosed; though numerous contracts have in the ordinary course of trade been entered into during the last two years.

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Copies of the above-mentioned Contracts, together with prints of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, may be inspected by intending subscribers at the Offices of the Solicitors to the Company.

Applications for Shares should be made on the Form accompanying the Prospectus, and sent to the Company's Bankers, the Natal Bank, Ltd., 18 St. Swithin's Lane, E.C., together with a remittance for the amount payable on application. Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full, and where the allotment is less than the number of Shares applied for, the surplus amount paid on application will be credited against the amount payable on allotment.

The Company will pay a brokerage of 1d. per Share on all Shares applied for and allotted on Application Forms bearing Brokers' stamps.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Secretary, Solicitors, Brokers, and Bankers of the Company.

This Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Dated, 10th March, 1905.

## ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The LISTS will Close on or before WEDNESDAY, the 15th March, 1905.

**THE MASHONALAND RAILWAY COMPANY, LTD.**

(Registered under the Companies Acts, 1862-1893.)

Share Capital, £450,000, divided into 450,000 Shares of £1 each fully paid.

**£2,560,000 5% GUARANTEED MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (1905)**

Of the above-mentioned Railway Company.

**Price £98 per cent.**

Due payment of CAPITAL, INTEREST, and Premium is UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED by the BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY, and each Debenture will bear an endorsement to that effect. Interest will be payable on January 1 and July 1 in each year in sterling, marks (20 to the £) and francs (25 to the £), and will accrue from the date of the respective instalments, but not before allotment. The first payment will be made on July 1, 1905.

The Debentures will be of £100 each and £50 each to bearer, and will be secured by a First Mortgage to Trustees on the main line from Kalamo to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine (about 250 miles), and on the branch line from Salisbury to the Ayrshire and Eldorado Mines (about 98 miles). They will be further secured, subject to the existing Mortgage of £2,500,000, by a Second Mortgage on the Mashonaland Railway Company's Railway from Umtali to Salisbury (171 miles), on the rent charge of £42,500 payable by the Beira Railway and Beira Junction Railway Companies, and on the £105,000 Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Debentures and the £71,250 Six per Cent. Income Debenture Stock of the Beira Railway Company, Limited, now in the Trust.

The Debentures will also have a First Mortgage on a land grant of about 250 square miles carrying certain mineral rights, in alternate blocks of one mile square, along the line where available, granted by the British South Africa Company in respect of the 250 miles of line north of Kalamo.

The Debentures will be payable at par on January 1, 1905, but may, at the option of the Company, be redeemed at 105 per cent. at any previous date subject to six months' notice. The Company reserves the right to redeem a portion of the Debentures only; and, if this be done, the Debentures to be redeemed will be determined by drawings. In the event of the Company being wound up, the Debentures will be repayable at 105 per cent.

THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY,  
PARR'S BANK, LIMITED, and  
THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED,  
are authorised to receive applications for the above-mentioned £2,560,000 Debentures.

The price of £98 per cent. is payable as follows:—

£21	on Application.
£21	on Allotment.
£25	on May 1, 1905.
£25	on July 1, 1905.
£26	on September 1, 1905.

£98

Payment in full may be made on Allotment, or on the due date of any instalment, under discount at 3 per cent. per annum.

The Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, now controls by ownership and working agreements a system of railways extending from the Port of Beira, on the East Coast, to Kalamo, a township situated on the Central African plateau, about 90 miles north of the Zambesi.

It is proposed to extend this system by (1) the construction of 250 miles of railway from Kalamo to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine; (2) the acquisition and widening of the line from Salisbury to the Ayrshire Mine (84 miles); (3) the extension of the Salisbury-Ayrshire line to the Eldorado Mine, the centre of the Rhodesian Banket Reef formation (14 miles).

The Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, will then control by ABSOLUTE OWNER-SHIP—  
170 miles from Umtali to Salisbury, already constructed.  
250 " from Kalamo to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine, to be constructed.  
84 " from Salisbury to the Ayrshire Mine, constructed, but to be converted to standard gauge.  
14 " from the Ayrshire Mine to the Eldorado Mine, to be constructed.

518 " and by WORKING AGREEMENTS—  
204 " from Beira to Umtali, owned by the Beira and Beira Junction Railway Companies, already constructed.  
301 " from Salisbury to Bulawayo, already constructed.  
232 " from Bulawayo to the Zambesi, already constructed.  
90 " from the Zambesi to Kalamo, in course of construction.

1,396 miles.

The proceeds of the present issue will be devoted to:—

1. The construction of the line from Kalamo to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine.
2. The acquisition of the Ayrshire Railway.
3. The conversion to standard gauge of the Ayrshire Railway.
4. The construction of the Eldorado Branch.
5. The repayment of a loan of £50,000 to be secured by £50,000 Second Mortgage Debentures of the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited.
6. The provision of interest, during construction, on the present issue.
7. The reimbursement of about £300,000 advances made to the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, by the British South Africa Company, partly under its guarantee of interest on the former issue and partly for betterments on the line.
8. The provision of about £50,000 Working Capital.

It is expected that the extension to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine will considerably increase the earning capacity of the Salisbury-Beira Railway, Beira being the natural and cheapest outlet for the produce of the Broken Hill Mine and other products of the district North of the Zambesi, the distance from Bulawayo to Beira being 675 miles, as compared with 1,300 miles from Bulawayo to Port Elizabeth.

Mr. Charles M. Rolker, the well-known mining expert, lately made a professional visit into Northern Rhodesia, and it is in consequence of his recommendation that the British South Africa Company, in conjunction with the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, has decided to carry out this extension, and that the British South Africa Company, in order to further the construction, has agreed to guarantee the present issue.

The Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine—formerly owned by the Rhodesia Copper Company, Limited—was recently acquired by the Rhodesia Broken Hill Development Company, Limited, which has been provided with a cash working capital of £100,000.

The Directors of the Rhodesia Broken Hill Development Company, Limited, are advised by their Engineer that the probable ore reserves above water level in the two principal kopjes alone may be estimated at 934,930 tons, a further 11,415 tons have been broken and stacked ready for treatment or shipment, being ore derived entirely from the benching and development work done underground: that "We are now in a position to start shipping high grade ore, or smelting on the ground, as soon as the railway reaches the mine. In the matter of production there will be no difficulty in mining and supplying some hundreds of tons of high grade ore per day," and that "We could immediately, if necessary, ship 200,000 tons of high grade lead and zinc ore."

The Northern Copper Company, Limited, and the Rhodesia Copper Company, Limited, are developing a number of Copper Mines in the Ka'oce and other districts adjacent to the route of the proposed Broken Hill extension.

The following letter has been addressed to the Directors of the British South Africa Company by Sir Douglas Fox:—

"23 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., February 23, 1905.

"The President and Directors of the

"BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.

"Gentlemen.—We have made a careful study of the traffic to be derived from the construction of the new section North of Kalamo, and we estimate that the 421 miles of the Mashonaland Railway will, within the first year after the Broken Hill section has been opened to traffic, earn additional £250 net per mile per annum, thus increasing the net receipts of the Mashonaland Railway Company by the sum of approximately £105,000.

"We may add that the interconnecting sections of the Rhodesia Railways, Limited, and the Beira Railways will benefit to a proportionate amount.

"The net returns can be reasonably expected to improve materially as the country develops.

"I am, Gentlemen, yours faithfully.

"(Signed) DOUGLAS FOX AND PARTNERS,  
for Sir Charles Metcalfe and selves."

Northern Rhodesia has not as yet been thrown open for general prospecting, so that the number of prospectors who have hitherto been at work has been limited. It is the intention of the British South Africa Company to remove the existing restrictions at an early date, when, having regard to the important discoveries already made, and to the extent of the mineralised areas, further discoveries of minerals may reasonably be expected.

A Contract has been made between the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, and Pauling and Co., Limited, dated March 8, 1905, for the construction of the railway from Kalamo to the Rhodesia Broken Hill Mine for the sum of £2,550,000, the Company undertaking to bear the cost of purchasing the permanent way material and of delivering it to the Contractors at the north end of the Victoria Falls Bridge. An Agreement of the same date has been entered into between the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, and Rhodesia Railways, Limited, for the purchase of rolling-stock and certain permanent way material to the amount of £170,000.

The Eldorado Mine, now owned by the Robinson Banket Company, Limited, and the Ayrshire Mine are both situated in the Lo Magundi district of Mashonaland.

Should the Eldorado formation be successfully proved, the receipts accruing from this source to the railway system will be most important, as the Beira-Umtali-Salisbury-Eldorado Line will occupy in respect of this mining field a geographical position similar to that in which the Delagoa Bay Line stands towards the Rand.

A Contract, dated March 3, 1905, has been made between the Mashonaland Railway Company, Limited, and Messrs. Emile Erlanger and Co. for the purchase by them from the Company of the Debentures now offered for sale at a price which leaves the purchasers a profit estimated at from 1 to 1½ per cent. after payment of all expenses connected with the issue, including the introduction of the Debentures on the Paris Bourse, stamp duties, advertising, brokerages, and a 3 per cent. commission to their underwriters. The Contract provides that Messrs. Emile Erlanger and Co. shall submit to the Company a statement of all disbursements in connection with the present sale, and that, should the profit realised by them exceed 1½ per cent., the excess shall be paid to the Company.

The Compagnie Française de Mines d'Or et de l'Afrique du Sud, agents of the British South Africa Company, have declared their willingness to pay in France the coupons of the Debentures of this issue, so soon as the requirements of the fiscal authorities shall have been met.

Copies of the Contract referred to in this Prospectus, of the Draft Trust Deed, Form of Debenture and Guarantee, as well as letters from the different Companies substantiating the statements made in this Prospectus, can be inspected by intending Applicants at the Offices of Messrs. Slaughter and May, 13 Ave in Paris, E.C., the Solicitors of Messrs. Emile Erlanger and Co., on whose behalf the Debentures are offered for sale by the British South Africa Company.

Applications must be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus, and be lodged, together with a deposit of £5 per cent. on the Debentures applied for, with one of the following Banks:—

Parr's Bank, Limited, 4 Bartholomew Lane, E.C., and Branches.  
The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, 10 Clement's Lane, Lombard Street.

Application will be made for a quotation upon the London Stock Exchange.

Full Prospectuses (upon the terms of which alone applications will be received) and Forms of Application can be obtained from the Banks receiving applications, the Brokers to the Company, Messrs. Pamsons Gordon and Co., Hutton Court, Threadneedle Street, E.C., and at the Offices of the British South Africa Company, 2 London Wall Buildings, E.C.

London: March 9, 1905.

**TRUSTEES FOR DEBENTURES.**

The Duke of ABERCORN, K.G.

The Right Hon. LORD GIFFORD, V.O.

**DIRECTORS.**

J. BOCHEFORT MAGUIRE, Esq., Chairman (Director of the British South Africa Company).

ALFRED BRIT, Esq. (Vice-President of the British South Africa Company).

GEORGE CAWSTON, Esq.

SIR MYLES FENTON (Consulting Director of the South-Eastern Railway Company).

F. BARING-GOULD, Esq. (Director of De Beers Consolidated Mines, Limited).

The Lord LURGAN, K.C.V.O.

F. I. RICHARDS-SEAFER, Esq., Esq. (Director of the Bechuanaland Exploration Company, Limited).

**ENGINEERS.**

Sir DOUGLAS FOX AND PARTNERS.

Sir CHARLES METCALFE, Bart. (Member of Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers).

**SOLICITORS.**

Messrs. HOLLAMS, SONS, COWARD AND HAWKSLEY, 30 Mincing Lane, E.C.

**ACTING SECRETARY AND OFFICES.**

DOUGLAS K. BRODIE, 2 London Wall Buildings, E.C.



**SOUTH METROPOLITAN GAS COMPANY.**

**SALE by TENDER of £67,300 PERPETUAL THREE PER CENT. DEBENTURE STOCK. Minimum Price £90 per Cent.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that it is the intention of the Directors of this Company to **SELL by TENDER £67,300 PERPETUAL THREE PER CENT. DEBENTURE STOCK** in accordance with the provisions of the "South Metropolitan Gas Act, 1901."

Particulars of same, with Form of Tender, can be obtained at this Office, on application to the undersigned, and Tenders must be sent in on or before Tuesday, the 28th day of March instant.

The Stock will be allotted to the highest bidders, but no Tender will be accepted at a lower price than at the rate of £90 money for each £100 Debenture Stock.

By Order,

FRANK BUSH, Secretary.

Offices: 709 Old Kent Road, London, S.E.  
9th March, 1905.

**CROWN REEF GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.****Declaration of Dividend No. 31.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Dividend of One Hundred per Cent (being at the rate of 100 per cent. per annum) has been declared by the Board for the half-year ending 31st March, 1905, payable to Shareholders registered in the Books of the Company at the close of business at 4 P.M. on Friday, 24th March, 1905, and to Holders of Coupon No. 19 attached to Share Warrants to Bearer.

The Transfer Registers will be closed from the 25th March to 31st March, both days inclusive. The Warrants will be despatched to registered European Shareholders from the London Office, and will probably be in the hands of Shareholders about 28th April.

ANDREW MOIR, London Secretary.

London Office: No. 1 London Wall Buildings, E.C.,  
9th March, 1905.

**BONANZA, LIMITED.****From the MANAGER'S REPORT for December 1904.**

Total Yield in fine gold from all sources .. .. 4,864'509 ozs.  
Total Yield in fine gold from all sources, per ton milled .. .. 11'313 dwts.

**WORKING EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.**

On a basis of 8,600 Tons Milled.

	Cost.	Cost per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Mining .. .. .	5,898 19 8	0 13 8'623
Development Redemption .. .. .	850 0 0	0 2 0'000
Crushing and Sorting .. .. .	448 2 0	0 1 0'505
Milling .. .. .	1,218 3 4	0 2 9'095
Cyaniding Sands .. .. .	1,058 19 5	0 2 5'552
" Slimes .. .. .	426 16 10	0 0 11'913
Sundry Head Office Expenses .. .. .	214 7 10	0 0 5'983
Profit .. .. .	10,125 9 1	1 3 6'571
	11,626 5 9	1 7 0'454
	£21,751 14 10	£2 10 7'025

	Value.	Value per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Gold Account—		
Mill Gold .. .. .	12,707 0 0	1 9 6'614
Cyanide Gold .. .. .	7,602 0 0	0 17 8'149
	20,309 0 0	2 7 2'763
Interest Account .. .. .	1,442 14 10	0 3 4'262
	£21,751 14 10	£2 10 7'025

No Capital Expenditure was incurred during the month.

An Interim Dividend of 35 per cent., or 7s. per Share, was declared by the Board of Directors on the 12th December, 1904, and is payable to all Shareholders registered in the Books of the Company at the close of business on the 31st December, 1904, and to holders of Coupon No. 12 attached to Share Warrants to Bearer. The dividend was payable on 4th February, 1905.

**BONANZA, LIMITED.****From the MANAGER'S REPORT for January 1905.**

Total Yield in Fine Gold from all sources .. .. 4,835'059 ozs.  
Total Yield in Fine Gold from all sources per ton milled .. .. 11'244 dwts.

**WORKING EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.**

On a basis of 8,600 Tons Milled.

	Cost.	Cost per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Mining .. .. .	6,136 3 5	0 14 3'242
Development Redemption .. .. .	850 0 0	0 2 0'000
Crushing and Sorting .. .. .	467 1 1	0 1 1'034
Milling .. .. .	1,127 10 1	0 2 7'465
Cyaniding Sands .. .. .	1,049 10 5	0 2 5'094
" Slimes .. .. .	504 12 4	0 1 2'082
Sundry Head Office Expenses .. .. .	344 2 0	0 0 9'003
Profit .. .. .	10,481 19 4	1 4 4'520
	10,128 13 9	1 3 6'661
	£20,610 13 1	£2 7 11'781

	Value.	Value per Ton.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Gold Account—		
Mill Gold .. .. .	12,660 16 8	1 9 5'326
Cyanide Gold .. .. .	7,949 16 3	0 18 5'855
	£20,610 13 1	£2 7 11'781

No Capital Expenditure was incurred during the month.

The List of Subscriptions will be closed on or before Monday, the 13th March,

**RAND WATER BOARD 4 PER CENT. STOCK.**

(Issued by the Rand Water Board under Ordinance No. 43 of 1904.)

Interest payable half-yearly on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July in each year.

**£3,400,000 INSCRIBED STOCK.**

Redeemable at par on 31st March, 1935; but the Board may at any time purchase Stock in the market for cancellation.

Messrs. SPEYER BROTHERS having purchased the above-mentioned Stock, offer the same for Sale at the price of 100 per cent., payable as follows:—

£10 per cent. on Application.	
£15 " " Allotment.	
£40 " " 28th March, 1905.	
£20 " " 12th May, 1905.	
£15 " " 29th June, 1905.	

£100 for £100 Stock.

£3,200,000 of the above Stock have been applied for and will be allotted in full on the terms of this Prospectus.

Payment in full may be made on allotment or on 28th March or 12th May, under discount at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum.

Upon payment of the instalment due on allotment Scrip Certificates to Bearer with Coupon attached, payable 1st July, 1905, for interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum to that date from the due dates of the instalments, will be issued by Messrs. Speyer Brothers against the allotment letter, and when these are fully paid the holders can obtain inscribed Stock in exchange, bearing interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum on the face value of the Stock.

The Stock will be inscribed in the books of the "Rand Water Board 4 per Cent. Inscribed Stock", to be kept by the National Bank of South Africa, Limited, Circus Place, London Wall, E.C., and will be transferable without charge and free of stamp duty at that Bank either by the Stockholders personally or by their Attorneys. The interest will be payable on behalf of the Rand Water Board at the same Bank on the 1st January and the 1st July in each year by interest warrants, which, if desired, can be sent by post at the Stockholder's risk. The principal is repayable at the same Bank.

The Finance Committee of the Rand Water Board authorise the statement that, after the Stock has been issued, arrangements will be made whereby the Stock can be exchanged for Stock Certificates to Bearer, as provided for by the Ordinance.

The Rand Water Board has been established under Ordinances No. 32 of 1903 and No. 48 of 1904, on lines similar to the London Water Board, for the purpose of supplying the Mining Industry of the Witwatersrand and the whole of that District, including the town of Johannesburg, with water, and of acquiring the following Undertakings, viz.:—

The Water Undertakings of the Braamfontein Company, Limited.

The whole Undertaking of the Johannesburg Waterworks Estate and Exploration Company, Limited.

The whole Undertaking of the Vierfontein Syndicate, Limited, together with all their liabilities with respect to Debentures, Debenture Stock, or Mortgages and other obligations.

Charges secured on any of these Undertakings are by the terms of the Ordinance of 1904 secured on the Water Fund, and those secured on specific property continue to be so secured. But the Board may redeem charges created subsequently to 17th August, 1904, by the issue of Water Stock not exceeding the par value thereof.

The present issue was required for completion of the payments due under awards already made in connection with the acquisition of the above-mentioned Undertakings, and the development of the same as authorised by the above-mentioned Ordinances.

The Stock is secured on the Water Fund (being the Fund to which all the receipts of the Board are to be carried), the Reserve Fund (which the Board have power to set aside out of the profits of the Undertaking for certain specified purposes), the whole of the Revenues and Rents, and all property belonging to the Board, and on all Rates levied by the Board or by the Court in accordance with provisions contained in the above-mentioned Ordinance of 1904.

Should the ordinary Revenues of the Board, which will be derived from the sale of water, together with the Reserve Fund, be insufficient to meet the interest and payment due for redemption of the loan, the Board are empowered to raise the deficiency by levying a Rate on the Rating Roll of the Rand Water Board with the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The Rating Roll of the Board consists of two sections:—

- (1) The Municipal Section, comprising the Municipal Rating Rolls of the Municipalities into which the Rand is divided, which was ascertained on 1st July, 1904, to be of the capital value, for rateable purposes, of .. .. £43,028,842
- (2) The Mining Section, consisting of a list of all mining claims within the Witwatersrand District, estimated by the Government Mining Engineer to be of a capital value of .. .. £175,000,000

The amount of any rate levied by the Board is divided into two equal parts, viz., one part on the Municipal Section and the other part on the Mining Section. In this way the rates of the Board are raised on the Mining as well as the Municipal values of the Witwatersrand District.

For the enforcement of his security the owner of any Stock, in respect of which default has taken place, may apply to the Court for a Receiver, and other stringent remedies are provided by Clause 80 of the Ordinance of 1904.

It will thus be seen that the Security is ample.

The Ordinance provides for the establishment of a Fund for the redemption of the total amount of the Stock in 30 years, which may be invested (inter alia) in the purchase of Rand Water Stock.

Where no allotment is made the amount paid on application will be returned, and in case of partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the instalment due on allotment.

Applications must be made on the form enclosed with the Prospectus for even hundred pounds of Stock.

The Allotment of the loan will be made as early as possible after the Subscription is closed.

Default in payment of any instalment at the due date will render all previous payments liable to forfeiture and the allotment to cancellation.

Prints of the Ordinances may be inspected at the office of Messrs. E. F. Turner & Sons, 101 Leadenhall Street, E.C.

7 Lothbury, London, E.C., 9th March, 1905.

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